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Today: Likely
thunderstorms
Chance of showers

High: 67°F
Low: 39°F

WWW.NOAA.GOV



Fraternities listen to the youth

See Page 7



THE A&T REGISTER

NOVEMBER 16, 2005

N.C. A&T State University

www.ncatregister.org

Volume lxxix, Issue 12

Cheerleader accuses police of assault

BY ERICA FRANKLIN
Editor in Chief



Jessica Murrell

Today, Jessica Murrell is scheduled to attend a court hearing regarding an incident that happened on Patterson Street on Oct. 16 during A&T's homecoming weekend.

At approximately 3:04 a.m. on Oct. 16, Murrell, a junior biology major said her and two other A&T student were traveling on Holden Road to take the student home. One of the students lives on High Point Road, but the women could

not drive down that road because, they said, Greensboro police officers had blocked parts of the road due to homecoming events.

In Murrell's statement that was given to members of the A&T student senate during the Oct. 26 meeting, the women said they did not know where Holden Road would lead them in reference to the student's house or a gas station.

"In essence we were lost," Murrell said in her statement.

Murrell said that they saw several police officers on Patterson Street while traveling down Holden Road.

The women decided to veer off toward the road block and ask the officers for directions.

"The officer jumped in front of

the car. So (one of the women) was driving my car, and she slammed on brakes," Murrell said during an interview. Then, Murrell said that they yelled to the officer that they only needed directions, but as they drove closer, the officer jumped in front of the car once again.

Afterwards, one of the women went to get out of the car while the car was still in drive. Murrell said that one of the officers tried to pull the woman to the ground.

"So, I was pulling her back into the car and put my car in park...He took his flashlight and started hitting my hands. He tried to break my grip," she said. Murrell said that she hit the officer.

She also said that the officer was cursing at them the entire time.

Then, the officer put the light from the flashlight in her face and pepper sprayed her. Murrell said that another officer opened her door, pulled her out of the car and pepper sprayed her again. She was then arrested.

"I was detained for 45 minutes," she said. "I got two citations—one was for obstruction of justice...and the other one was for striking the officer."

Murrell will sit in court at 8:30 a.m. Although Murrell did not file charges, a formal complaint was filed.

Corp. W. J. Redfearn from the Greensboro Police Department said that as a result of her filing a complaint, the issue is still under an internal investigation.

"She will be notified by mail whether the allegations are sustained or unfounded," Redfearn said.

Murrell said that her parents have sent letters to people including the chief of police, the mayor, Chancellor James Renick and Dr. Roselle Wilson.

"At first I wanted them (officers) to lose their jobs...I am more upset because it happens entirely too much in Greensboro," she said.

"They (officers) do a very poor job in the city accommodating people when they come to homecoming," she said.

Despite all that has happened, Murrell said she just wants A&T students to know that this can happen to them.

"I never thought something like this would ever happen to me," she said.

"I appreciate what officers do because there are very good officers out there, but you have to understand that there are some idiots in whatever type of profession you're in. Sometimes when you give someone that much power, they lose control," she said.

"I am not saying that I was right in what I did. I was wrong; I kept him from doing his job, and I hit him back when he hit me."

"Being that it was three females in the car not showing a sign of threat...it was definitely incorrect on his part."

The two other women declined to comment.

A&T police officer collides with student at intersection

BY MICHELE MATTHEWS
Contributor

The intersection at the corner of Bluford and Dudley streets has become a hazardous zone for motorists and pedestrians in the area.

On the morning of Nov. 7, there was a car accident between Ashley Johnson, a sophomore nursing major, and university police officer, C.B. Tomey. Johnson was driving a 1999 Dodge Stratus and Tomey was driving a 2002 Chevrolet Impala.

This accident was investigated by the Greensboro Police Department. The estimated cost of damages to Johnson's vehicle was \$2,000. The damages to the police vehicle were estimated to cost \$4,000.

According to the police report, Johnson was at fault for the accident. She was ticketed at the scene for not yielding the right of way to oncoming traffic, while making a left turn on to Bluford Street.

However, Johnson's version of the events slightly differs from the one documented in the police report. She contends that there was an element of surprise when Tomey's vehicle hit her because she did not see him.

"I was in the turning lane and a car had passed so I was in the stopped position waiting for a car to go by until I saw my way clear. When I saw my way clear, I went



PHOTO COURTESY: JIM PERRY

Officer C.B. Tomey and Ashley Johnson, a nursing major, were involved in a car accident at the intersection of Dudley and Bluford streets.

ahead and made a left. When I made the left hand turn, the car hit me," Johnson said.

Johnson asserted that the accident was not her fault and should be blamed primarily on the police officer and danger of the intersection.

"He was speeding and the way the police was coming was from a blind driveway or a blind street to where you can't see until you get up close and it's just too late," Johnson said.

Ashley Cobb, a sophomore nursing major, witnessed the accident. Cobb told police that Tomey was traveling at a reduced speed when

See ACCIDENT, Page 3

Director hints dorm name could change

BY TIFFANY MALLORY
Contributor

Some students do not know where the name for Aggie Village originated.

Leonard Jones, the director of Housing and Residence Life said, "Mrs. Clinton, President Clinton's wife, came up with the idea and it captured the spirit of what we hoped to do with aggie village."

"I think that's a good concept. I think it's a very true concept," said Arnita Floyd-Moody, the vice president of internal affairs for the Student Government Association (SGA).

However, some students do not like the name for the residence halls.

"Nobody told us they were changing the name to Aggie Village. There is a group on the Facebook called 'I don't live in the village I live in the Scott's'," Floyd-Moody said.

Jones said that approximately 800 students reside in Aggie Village, roughly 200 students per residence hall.

The subject of renaming the residence halls, Village 1,3,4 and 6, is

being considered.

"We have great historical figures in the African American community and in the Aggie community, and it's plenty of people out there we can name stuff after rather than give it generic names," Floyd-Moody said.

However, Floyd-Moody explained that the village does not necessarily have to be named after the Scotts.

"I have done my research on that and the Scotts' were a family who owned slaves. You definitely don't want to rename a building after Scotts because Scotts' were cool; they hold a great legacy, but you don't want to rename another building after them knowing they had slaves," Floyd-Moody said.

Jones said he believes that renaming the residence halls would be something to consider in the near future.

"I think that would be something we would consider in the future. If we go through the proper procedure of naming a building, students can be a part of that effort along with alumni and others," Jones said.

See AGGIE VILLAGE, Page 3

Graduate school representatives come to A&T

BY KRYSTAL PETTEWAY
Contributor

On Nov. 10, a graduate school fair was held in the Memorial Student Union Exhibit Hall. Numerous graduate school representatives were in attendance at the fair.

"We love A&T students here at Carolina Law School and obviously we come here every year because we love interacting with Aggies," said Natasha Chapman, a graduate school representative from UNC-Chapel Hill.

"We are always looking to alter our program with a particular type of students, and A&T has the type

of students that will fit well into our program," said Jasper Smith, a Howard University Law School representative.

Law schools, medical and nursing schools, as well as universities that offer multiple graduate programs came out to recruit "the cream of the crop from A&T," according to Erick Armstrong, a Howard University Law School representative.

"We are looking for the brightest young minds everywhere we can go to find students that are interested in focusing on law; we are willing to go and find them," he said.

Savannah State University came to A&T's graduate fair to gain exposure.

"We have never been to this university before," said Dana E. Crawford, a representative for Savannah State University, "and we just wanted to see the caliber of students from North Carolina A&T State University."

"Not only did we want to get our name out amongst the options for graduate programs here at A&T but because we were sure that there are some students that have never heard about our university before," she said.

There were many other graduate school representatives at this event from schools such as Virginia Commonwealth University, North

See GRADUATE, Page 3



PHOTO BY MIKE MCCRAY

A&T students speak to numerous representatives about graduate school opportunities around the nation.

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Aggies voice opinion about freshman representation



HBCU NEWS

5 people charged in fatal shooting of deliveryman



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

50 Cent stars in first movie



Lady Aggies finish season on high note

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Weekly Update

Nov. 16

4 p.m.
SAM MEETING
Merrick Hall Auditorium
hosted by the Society for the
Advancement of Management

6 p.m.
INTERNATIONAL
BUSINESS ETIQUETTE
SEMINAR
Smith Hall Room 2014
hosted by SUAB

7:07
"MEDIA DEPICTION"
McNair Auditorium
hosted by the Alpha Phi
Chapter of Alpha Kappa
Alpha Sorority, Inc.

7:11 p.m.
"CONTINUING
EDUCATION"
Hines Auditorium
hosted by the Alpha Nu
Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi
Fraternity, Inc.

8:11 p.m.
WOMEN APPRECIATION
DAY
Marteen Auditorium
hosted by the Bloody Mu Psi
Chapter of Omega Psi Phi
Fraternity, Inc.

Nov. 17

7:11 p.m.
FOUNDER'S DAY
NCB Auditorium
hosted by the Bloody Mu Psi
Chapter of Omega Psi Phi
Fraternity, Inc.

8 p.m.
"FROM KINGS AND
QUEEN TO N***** AND
B@#*!"
Carver Auditorium
hosted by the Alpha Phi
Chapter of Alpha Kappa
Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Nov. 18

7:07 p.m.
"THE LARRY DAVIS
STORY"
BARNES Auditorium
hosted by the Alpha Phi
Chapter of Alpha Kappa
Alpha Sorority, Inc.

8 p.m. to 11 p.m.
PSALMS NITE
Wells Memorial
1001 E. Washington St.
hosted by Mason-Seymour
Campus Ministry

8:11 p.m.
"MOVIE NIGHT: TEAM
AMERICA"
Webb Auditorium
hosted by the Alpha Nu
Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi
Fraternity, Inc.

Nov. 19

9 p.m. to 3 a.m.
T-PAIN'S "AGGIE/BULL-
DOG" CLASSIC'S GRAND
FINALE:
T-PAIN PERFORMING
"I'M SPRUNG" LIVE!
Southpark HYATT
5501 Carnegie Blvd.

9 p.m. to 4 a.m.
THE SECOND COMING
SPADES TOURNAMENT
Riverwalk Apartments

11 p.m. to 3 a.m.
BODY ART FASHION
SHOW AND
AFTERPARTY:
MAC COMESTICS
Club Solaris
Elm Street

Chevrolet gives business students opportunity

BY CHRISSY MALONE
Contributor

Chevrolet has granted students at A&T an opportunity of a lifetime. Marketing students at North Carolina A&T State University joined by students from 12 other colleges are working on a campaign to market the 2006 Chevrolet Cobalt and the brand new HHR. Forty marketing students have been given a chance to gain experience while still receiving an education.

Kathryn Cort, a faculty adviser, said, "This is a fantastic program that gives students the opportunity to apply what they are learning in class."

In this 14 week program, students are instructed to come up with an advertisement agency which will be given a name. Through the agency, they will research and put into action a marketing campaign for Chevrolet.

Cort said that this is not the first time that marketing students have been given this type of opportunity. EdVenture Partners, a marketing company that provides educational partnerships with over 300 companies, has provided a client to work with students for three semesters.

For this opportunity, the students are working with the staff at the local Bill Black Chevrolet located on East Bessemer Avenue. Students participating in the agency, Aggie Enterprise, must develop strategies to market the Cobalt and the HHR on a \$2,500 budget.

Jesica Woody, the public relations department head of Aggie Enterprise, emphasizes that Chevrolet has never marketed these cars to college students directly, so

this is a fresh campaign. To actually market the cars to students, Chevrolet chose their target customers--college students.

After completing the project students will present their results to Chevrolet at the end of the semester. These students will gain experience that exposes them to the marketing industry.

On Oct. 13, students presented their proposal to invited guest which included Bill Black Chevrolet.

"The presentation was basically a campaign brief about how the students are planning to market the cars," Cort said.

Woody said that students are in a "catch-22" when entering the job market. She believes that the Chevrolet Marketing Internship program gives students the advantages that will need before they enter the real job market.

"Students will be able to put on their resume that they were Fortune 500 interns," Cort said.

Not only are the students gaining experience in the marketing industry, but they are also in a competition. Out of all interns in the program there is a chance that they can win a trip to Atlanta and/or be offered a job with Chevrolet. Students also have a chance to earn other internships, which can lead to full-time positions.

Students have already planned and activated promotions. The Chevrolet Cobalt appeared in A&T's homecoming parade. Also, on Oct. 29, the students sponsored an event to get 700 students to actually sit in the Cobalt.

"There was food, prizes, and it was a whole lot of fun," Cort said.

A&T business organization celebrates 25th anniversary

BY DELILA MILLER
Contributor

A&T students and faculty within the School of Business and Economics geared up for the 25th Anniversary of Beta Gamma Sigma from Nov. 11 to Nov. 15.

This week for Beta Gamma Sigma has been set to honor it's 25 years of ongoing dedication at A&T.

According to Beta Gamma Sigma's advisor, Dr. Vereda King, over 672 students have been inducted over a 25-year time frame. "We have a lot of history over this organization," King said.

A formal banquet will kick off the weekly events, starting Monday. Throughout the week activities such as luncheons, speaker series, leadership workshops and social game nights will aid in making the week for Beta Gamma Sigma a success.

"I'm extremely excited for the students at A&T who have worked so hard to be in this organization and maintain its status," King said.

Wednesday night will specifically focus on students within Beta Gamma Sigma and their honors and achievements.

Dr. Kimberly McNeil, a marketing professor and previous advisor for Beta Gamma Sigma, was inducted into the organization as a student while attending A&T. She said that Beta Gamma Sigma is a great honors society to have on campus.

"I hope students fully understand the honors it is to be inducted, because it is truly noteworthy,"

McNeil said.

Dr. Quiester Craig, the dean of Business and Economics is one of the founding members of Beta Gamma Sigma. Dr. Michael Simmons, the director of the Transportation Institute, is also a founding member and one of the first to become inducted into the organization.

Dr. Charles Malone, an accounting professor, serves as the organization's president. He said he was extremely proud of the faculty and the student body to have a chapter at A&T and delighted that Beta Gamma Sigma is celebrating a 25-year period.

Stephen Peoples, the vice-president and spring 2005 inductee of Beta Gamma Sigma, is a senior accounting major.

He said that this is a great occasion to commemorate 25 years of excellence within the School of Business and Economics. He also said that this week is a great thing because inducted students can congregate with alumni who are in Beta Gamma Sigma, and they can see the progress that has been made within the organization.

"Beta Gamma Sigma gives the opportunity to students in the school of Business and Economics exposure and the opportunity to see students in a different light," Peoples said.

The organization Beta Gamma Sigma is the first Business International Honors society at A&T to receive the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation in the Triad.

Binge drinking popular on college campuses

BY TWI BROWN
Contributor

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, binge drinking is defined as consuming five or more drinks in a row for men and four or more for women.

Binge drinking is most popular among college students and adolescents, but kids as young as 13 have reported that they have engaged in the risky practice of binge drinking.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 39 percent of women and 50 percent of men on college campuses reported binge drinking in the last two weeks, of those 22.5 percent were African Americans.

Alcohol poisoning is a result of consuming excessive amounts of alcohol and is a common consequence of binge drinking. According to the Mayo Clinic, the affects of alcohol depends on the amount of alcohol in the blood (blood alcohol level).

Drinking very strong alcohol or drinking very quickly can cause the blood alcohol levels to rise.

Symptoms of alcohol poisoning include confusion, vomiting, seizures, slow or irregular breathing and unconsciousness. If untreated, alcohol poisoning can cause death.

Besides these health risks, there are also some less obvious consequences of binge drinking. Nearly one out of every five teenagers has "blacked out" after heavy binge drinking and can not remember the details of their evening, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Sixty percent of college-male binge drinkers and 50 percent of female-binge drinkers reported that they drink and drive, according to the National Institute of Alcohol and Alcoholism. Alcohol greatly effects judgments, so someone who has been binge drinking is more likely to make bad or dangerous decisions, such as risky sexual

University Policies on Alcohol

--All usages of alcoholic beverages will conform to existing state, local and university laws and policies.

--There will be no consumption of alcoholic beverages in a motor vehicle while on university property or on university streets.

--There will be no public display of alcoholic beverages.

--Consumption of alcoholic beverages is restricted to students' rooms in residence halls only for students of legal age.

--Anyone who drinks alcoholic beverages will be held accountable for their behavior. Irresponsible drinking will not be accepted as an excuse for irresponsible behavior. Such behavior will result in judicial action and/or notification to parent(s) or guardian.

SOURCE: STUDENT HANDBOOK

encounters, dangerous stunts and general reckless behavior.

At Sebastian Health Center, the staff has experience dealing with alcohol related illnesses.

"When students who are intoxicated come in, they are immediately seen by a physician. If we can handle their condition, they are treated here but sometimes students have to be transferred by ambulance to the nearest hospital for further evaluation and treatment," said Sabrina Scroggins, a charge nurse at A&T.

Binge drinking can also be a warning sign to other serious problems. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, some college students that binge drink may be experiencing mental health issues, such as depression, feelings of isolation, anxiety and compul-

siveness.

Sebastian Health center has a psychiatrist on duty and offers counseling services. Additional counseling services are available at Murphy Hall.

Janet Lattimore, a public health educator at Sebastian Health Center, said the key to combating binge drinking is education and awareness.

Many students who participate in binge drinking are not aware of the serious consequences that may result from this dangerous activity.

"The activity of binge drinking can lead to life long consequences that you have to deal with for the rest of your life, long after the weekend of binge drinking is over," Lattimore said.

GRADUATE continued from Page 1

Carolina State University, Western Carolina University and Illinois State University.

"In the graduate program we are looking for 3.0 GPA, the GRE general requirements exam and three letters of recommendations," Crawford said.

Henry O'Meres, a representative for Michigan State University said, "North Carolina has the richest soil for recruiting students. The undergrad program here at A&T is so strong we look for that ending product in these students that make them quality students."

The graduate fair inspired as well as opened the eyes of students of all classifications.

Freshman Dominic Thomas came out to the fair to get a head start on his career goals.

"I found out what schools

offered my major, and I also found out what I needed to do personally to succeed to the next point in my academic career."

Desiree McNair, a sophomore hoping to pursue a career in pediatrics, found inspiration and guidance at the fair.

"Instead of telling me how to apply the representatives told me what I needed to work on as a undergrad student to be prepared for a graduate program. All of the universities that I was interested in has my contact information so throughout my college career they can keep in contact with me."

Kimberly Wright a junior nursing major appreciated this event because it broadened her choices of what school to attend because before she came to the graduate fair she was only considering two universities.

Shonetta Gregg, a University of

Georgia graduate school representative, explained that there is a program available for students interested in the pharmaceutical and biomedical department. She said that the University of Georgia is partnered with A&T. The two schools have worked together to create the Bridges Program.

"This program is to get the students into the physical science department here at A&T and then transfer to get their masters at the University of Georgia to have their second year of getting their masters fully funded," Gregg said.

"This program also serves as a kickoff for students who are not quite ready to go directly into the graduate program, but the Bridges Program serves as a preparation for the students," she said.

Students can sign up for the Bridges Program at www.pbs.rx.uga.edu

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AGGIE TALK BACK

The North Carolina A&T State University Student Government Association senate does not allow freshman or transfer students to become senators due to the fact that they do not have GPAs. They do allow these students to be senate interns.

Several members of the student body and senate were asked for their opinion on the issue.

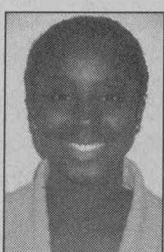
How do you feel about freshman not being able to vote in the Senate?
Do you feel that they having enough representation as a student body?



Arnita Floyd-Moody
-junior business administration major
-vice president of internal affairs.
"At first I didn't think it was fair. The Senate is so productive, it is a learning experience. I think it is good, because they don't know how A&T runs."



Kimberly Williams
-freshman criminal justice major
-senate intern
"I feel that we are not adequately represented in the senate because we don't have the right to vote. The freshmen do make an impact because we give a new perspective for the new students as well as the transfer students."



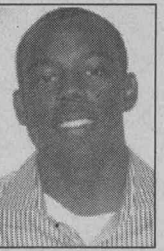
Brittany Prescott
-freshman criminal justice major
-student
"Why should other people be able to make decisions that affect me and I have no input? The senate interns should be able to vote because they represent us."



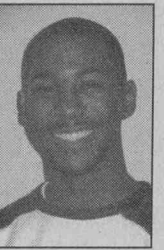
Starkeisha Connor
-freshman journalism and mass communication major
-student
"In my opinion I think it is not fair that freshman cannot vote in the Senate. As a freshman I think we should have our input, and GPA shouldn't affect our voting skills. It is also not fair because we sit and participate in the meetings about the voting process. I feel the voting is going to affect everyone; that also means freshman."



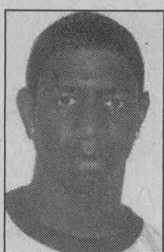
LaTisha Moody
-freshman lab animal science major
-student
"I think it is unfair that freshman cannot vote. We pay tuition; we participate in all functions, events and activities at the university, same as the upper classman. The decisions of the senate affect everyone including the freshman, so why shouldn't we be allowed to vote? After all, we are apart of the school."



Robert Foster
-senior accounting major
-student
"As a student that is not in the senate, I feel that it is unfair that freshman must attend the meetings, but are not allowed to vote. As the future of our fine institution it is essential their voices be heard, regardless of whether they have a GPA or not. We encourage all students to get involved on campus, but then we segregate a wide majority of the student body."



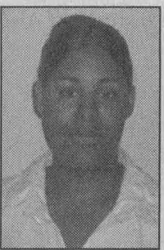
John Thomas
-senior information technology major
-senator
"I don't think it's fair that freshman don't have a right to vote within the senate. However, it is stated in the constitution that they are not supposed to be represented as freshman. I believe that that since we are all students at this prestigious university we should have the same rights equally, no matter what their classification is."



DJ Mereith
-freshman animal science major
-senate intern
"I really feel that we don't have equal representation as a freshman class. We are able to debate within discussions and notions. We are just as informed as any other senator. We hear about the same issues and presentations."



Delila Miller
-junior journalism and mass communication major
-senator
"I think that it's OK for the freshman to not have a vote in the senate because of the new program that has been implemented called the freshman senate intern. This gives them a year of experience in the senate and still allows them two extra terms as a senator to vote on issues."



Jade Ashley Buch
-sophomore child development major
-student
"I feel that it is fair for the freshman class to not be able to vote in the senate because I believe that they need time to experience events and issues that affect the campus."



Desiree' McNair
-sophomore biology major
-senator
"Even though first-year students do not have a say in issues we discuss, senate interns are allowed to express their opinions before the present topic is voted on, therefore influencing the outcome of the vote."



Kia Goosby
-freshman electronic media major
-senate intern
"Being able to be an intern, it gives the exposure on how things are run, but at the same time I feel as if I am wasting my time attending meetings that I cannot voice my opinion."



Waynette Kimball
-sophomore agricultural economics major
-senator
"Freshman in the senate do not have an official vote and are called senate interns because they have not yet received the GPA from A&T and because they have not fully been affiliated with the campus and the SGA. Therefore, I do not feel that this rule hinders the freshman class from being represented because students have so many opportunities to express their opinions and make changes simply by becoming involved in the many other organizations that A&T has to offer."

Interviews were done by Megan Rowls, a contributor for *The A&T Register*.

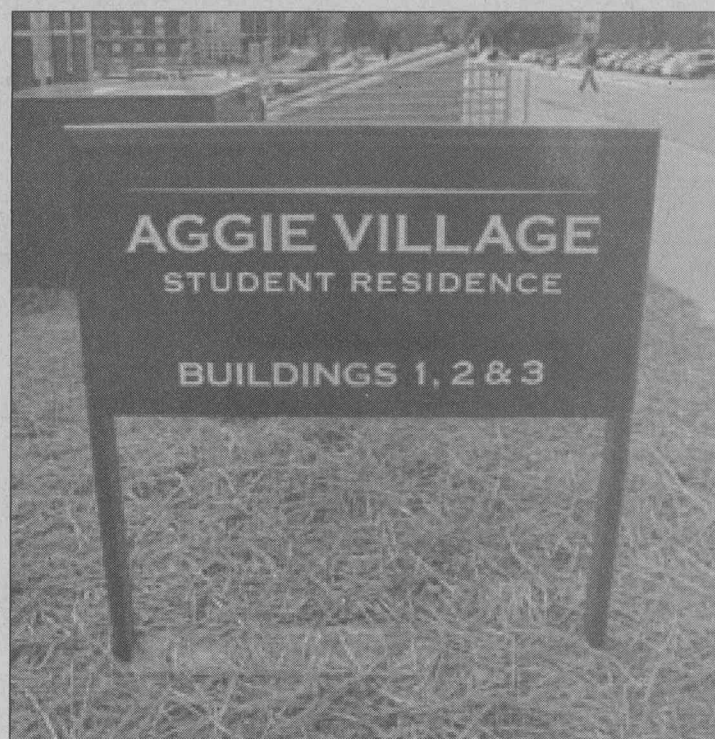


PHOTO BY MIKE MCCRAY

Aggie Village houses about 800 students, 200 in each residence hall.

AGGIE VILLAGE continued from Page 1

Jones said that alumni play a big part at A&T and they are tremendously proud of A&T.

"We recognize that a name change involves more than just the director of housing," he said.

Jones welcomes students to come to him and express their opinions regarding the issue.

"I would be glad to work with students if that is the case. It involves alum; it involves a lot of people," he said.

Floyd-Moody has expressed her feelings to Jones not for personal reasons but for the student body.

"The only reason why I went to him is because that's not only how I feel that's how a lot of people feel," Floyd-Moody said.

Jones said he believes that the village provides comfort for the residents that stay there.

"I think for the village since it is a very desirable community obviously students like living there. If one would want their own private space, that's fine but they are also able to have friends or someone to talk to," he said.

Tankia Hariston, a sophomore

business education major is secretary of Aggie Village and likes the idea.

"I think it would be good for each building to have its own name but still be unified. I like the way the building is," Hariston said.

Jones said that university protocol in renaming the residence hall would have to be followed.

He said that physical changes to Aggie Village will take place in the near future.

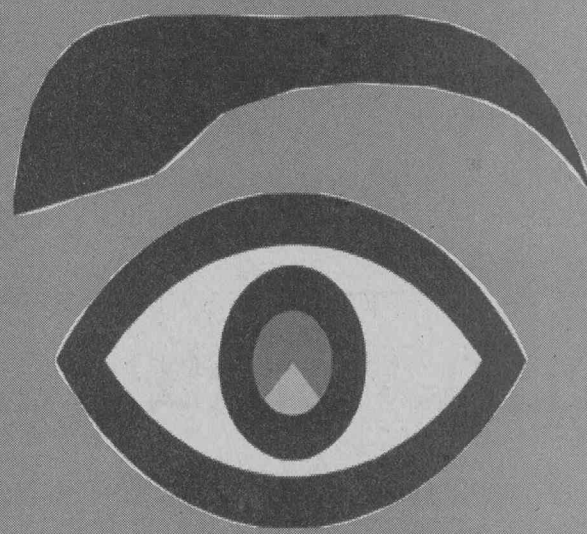
"We are thinking about additional landscaping and signage and some ecstatic kinds of pieces. We hope to get students voice and input," Jones said.

Floyd-Moody said the senate is also working on the issue regarding renaming the buildings.

She has used random sampling to get students opinion on how they feel about residence halls' name. She welcomes students to contact her with any concerns.

"If people have issues with the name or if they have any suggestions or they want to help out with the efforts, they can contact me. I definitely need the help because I can't do it all by myself," she said.

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ACCIDENT continued from Page 1

the collision occurred. She also stated that the officer had the right of way.

Cobb expressed her concern about the safety of the intersection and said that students need to slow down in that area.

"Students on that campus need to stop rushing," Cobb said, "There needs to be more officers

in the area to rectify (the problem)."

Johnson said that she believes the intersection is an unsafe one and she has personally witnessed and experienced the dangers of it as both a motorist and pedestrian.

"I walked across the street plenty of times and had to run (so as not to be hit by oncoming traffic)," Johnson said.

Cobb also inferred that there

were times that she was fearful when crossing the street as a pedestrian at that intersection.

"There are lots of times when you have to skirt across the road to avoid being hit at that intersection," Cobb said.

Johnson suggested that action be taken to make the intersection safer.

"They should put a sign up, 'Watch for Pedestrians,' way up

before they even reach the stop sign to let them know pedestrians (are crossing) and vehicles (are) turning," Johnson said, "They could even lower the speed limit from 35 to 20 or just put signs up."

Police Officer Tomey were unavailable for comment.

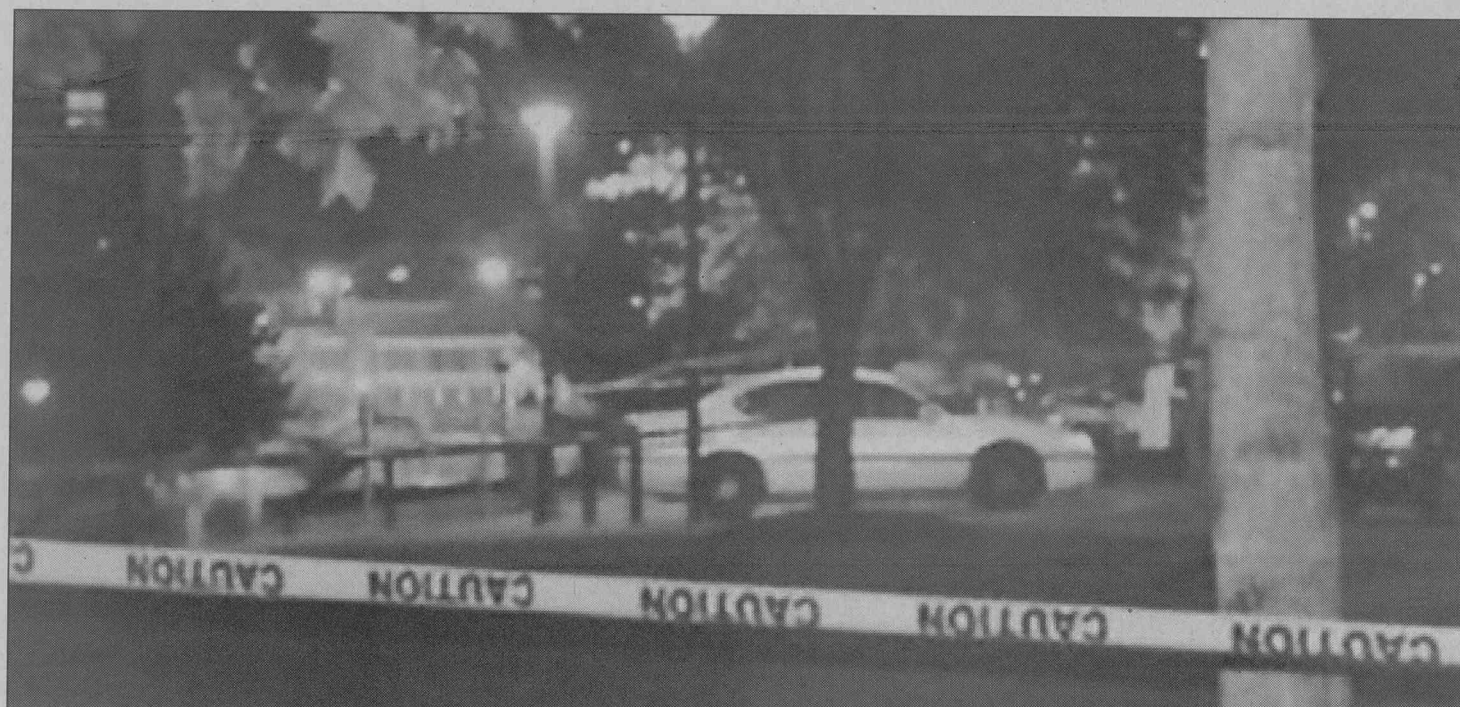


PHOTO CREDIT: K. CUMMINGS/THE METER

Metro Police cover the entrance area of Hankal Hall at Tennessee State after the deliveryman was killed.

5 arrested in killing at Tennessee State

By **EDDIE R. COLE JR.**
Black College Wire

Five suspects, three of them teenagers, have been charged in the fatal shooting of a restaurant deliveryman in the first killing on the campus of Tennessee State University in eight years.

The Nashville Tennessean quoted Metro Nashville police saying two of the teenagers told authorities they were looking for an easy robbery target on Halloween night.

The university said it was tightening security after police said Li Hong Peng, 37, a temporary delivery man for Best Wok Chinese Restaurant in Swett's Plaza, was fatally wounded and robbed about 6:20 p.m. on Oct. 31. He was making a delivery to female residents of Hankal Hall.

The first two assailants, Anthony Patton, 15, and Ronnie Akins, 17, were arrested and charged on Nov. 7 in the robbery and murder. They were charged with homicide, aggravated battery and kidnapping, according to a Nashville Police press release. Nine days after the slaying, on Nov. 9, three more men were arrested and charged: Joseph Ferrell, 20, Curtis Grisby, 18, and Gabriel Massengale, 30.

"At some point, two male Blacks approached the delivery man 'with a weapon in a robbery attempt,'" said Det. Duane Phillips, of Nashville-Davidson Metro Police in a statement to the news media. "They ended up [with] a struggle going on, he was shot, they took

his money and his car."

The Tennessean reported Nov. 8, "Investigators said they found the fingerprints of Anthony J. Patton, 15, inside the recovered 2003 Honda Civic belonging to the victim, Li Hong Peng. Patton was arrested at 11 p.m. Friday at his home."

"Yesterday afternoon police arrested Ronnie Cortez Akins, 17, who they said they suspect of being the shooter, at 3274 Hinkle Drive while he was sleeping.

"Akins had Peng's car keys and cell phone in his pocket, officers said, and they also found a 9mm semi-automatic pistol, believed to be the gun used to kill Peng, under his bed.

"Police said both teens are charged in Juvenile Court with criminal homicide, aggravated robbery, car theft and unlawful gun possession."

"We are stepping up security measures on campus," new Tennessee State President Melvin Johnson, said after the shooting.

Sherre Bishop, university director of public relations, said campus police would host crime prevention sessions in all residence halls to give students "smart tips." She also said students who do not feel comfortable moving around campus could contact campus police for an escort.

Other security measures include increased lighting of dark areas, counseling, and communications to students, parents, faculty, staff and alumni explaining the universi-

ty's plans.

Johnson also said that local delivery restaurants will have to contact campus police before conducting business on campus.

"Everywhere I go, I hear about the arrest of such young men, and I am still devastated," said Ashley Nichole Davis, a sophomore majoring in psychology from St. Louis.

"Security is not as tight as it should be," said Jasmine Rhodes, a resident of Hankal Hall and sophomore business administration major from Memphis. "I could have been caught up in that cross-fire. Luckily, I had already left for the Nightmare of Jefferson Street," a dance competition, "and it really was a nightmare on Jefferson."

According to archives of the student newspaper the Meter, the last murder on campus occurred in October 1997. That year, Ryan Keith "Reno" Anderson of Memphis was killed on the sixth floor of Boyd Hall in relation to an illegal drug transaction.

"This is the time of season where we always have robberies pick up but very seldom do we have one on a college dorm, on a college campus," Detective Phillips said.

A female resident of Hankal Hall, who asked not to be identified, said she heard what she believed to be firecrackers outside the residence hall. When she looked outside, she said, a body was lying on the ground.

Peng was a temporary delivery man who was just trying to support his family, according to Eric Guo,

restaurant manager and friend of Peng.

He had worked for the restaurant for less than a month and had moved to the United States four months ago. Guo said Peng was survived by his wife and their 7-year old son.

Best Wok was one of the few local restaurants to deliver to the Tennessee State campus, and several local businesses said they had not decided whether to continue delivering to the university.

Guo, who sometimes takes the food to the campus himself, said he never had problems at Tennessee State but was unsure whether his business would continue to deliver there.

"Every time I go out to TSU, there are normally a lot of officers," Guo said. "They are pretty nice and good with that."

Guo said he didn't believe that suspects were from TSU, but he did say that Hankal Hall seems more prone to robberies considering its isolated location and numerous trees.

However, he said, "I have never seen any officer back there in front of Hankal Hall."

A funeral service was scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Woodlawn Funeral Home in Nashville.

Eddie R. Cole Jr., a student at Tennessee State University, is editor-in-chief of the Meter. Students Brian Browley and Kirsten Watkins contributed to this report.

Nashville students protest Greek paraphernalia shop

Eighty Nashville college students from three schools gathered to protest a Greek paraphernalia shop, charging that the wife of the owner called three members of a Tennessee State University sorority a racial slur.

Spearheaded by members of the Alpha Beta chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc., community members joined students from Tennessee State, Vanderbilt University and Nashville State Technical Community College on Nov. 9 to picket the You Greek, Me Greek store on the city's West End Avenue.

Sorority members Ashley Coleman and Latoya Trice told the Meter, the Tennessee State University newspaper, that they and their sorority sister April Gardner went to the store on Oct. 28 because the faded lettering on T-shirts ordered on Oct. 5 did not meet with the chapter's approval.

But Trice said when they attempted to return the shirts, Jamie Roppel, wife of store owner Steve Roppel, told the three ladies to "Go to hell, you f--- n--- b---."

Coleman added that Jamie Roppel referred to the three students as a "gang" and said they were "scaring away the customers." For sorority member Fatime Badjie, that was enough.

"We've experienced discrimination in the heart of Nashville," said Badjie, a senior mass communications major from the Gambia in western Africa. "They referred to black organizations as a gang. Being a person who believes in justice and nondiscrimination, it is my duty to see that this store gets shut down. This store does not deserve to be here."

Trice said that in addition to being subjected to the racial slur, the \$100 refund was thrown in their faces.

The store was closed during the protest, but a statement posted in the front window denied wrongdoing.

"You Greek, Me Greek has had a 15-year tradition of providing quality screen printing services to corporate and individual customers, including (Tennessee State University) and Nashville," read the statement from Steve Roppel. "If a remark considered racist were made, I did not make it. Beyond that, any issue is irrelevant."

However, protesters didn't think so.

Chants such as "You [Greek] me Greek, your excuse are weak" and "Honk your horns for justice" rang along West End Avenue.

"This is Rosa Parks in action," said Cass Teague, a Tennessee State alumnus at the protest. "Rosa Parks is not dead. Her spirit is very much alive in these young ladies."

And Vanderbilt students agreed.

"In 2005, this racism exhibited is unacceptable," said Vanderbilt sophomore Jessica Jackson, a Little Rock, Ark., native majoring in human organizational development.

"I am extremely proud. This project demonstrates that we are a community."

Student leaders in attendance, such as Miss Tennessee State University Tomeika Dobson, Miss Junior Terra Bell and Student Government Association representative Patrick Walker-Reese, said the protest represented more than standing up for the African American community.

"This protest is a good move on behalf of our generation," said Walker-Reese, a freshman history major from Nashville. "It will change the perception of how this business and others will look at black students. Sometimes, we tend to be complacent in our lives and the racism that exists today in our society."

Kirsten D. Watkins and Eddie R. Cole Jr. are students at Tennessee State University. Watkins is arts and entertainment editor of the Meter and Cole is editor-in-chief.



PHOTO CREDIT: K. CUMMINGS/THE METER

Eighty Nashville college students came together to protest an incident at the You Greek, Me Greek store.

Tenn. State ends free newspaper program

By **ASHLEY GOODMAN**
Black College Wire

As the newspaper industry struggles to attract younger readers, a program that provides newspapers at no cost to students in Tennessee State University residence halls has ended because the university says it can no longer afford them.

USA Today's Collegiate Readership Program, which supplies USA Today, the Wall Street Journal and the Nashville Tennessean to seven dormitories, was scrapped this year.

"If someone would have given me more money to fund it, I would have loved to expand the program in the future," Peggy Earnest, dean of housing, said. "But we don't have enough money to fund it this year."

The program, which had been in operation for four years, cost the university \$10,741.50 last academic school year, according to Larry Carpenter, assistant director of housing. But Earnest said the program will be brought back only "if money permits."

Nationally, the Collegiate

Readership Program started in 1997 at Penn State University. Its goal is to enhance students' view of the world, said Douglas Fraser, the program's director.

"We're sorry that Tennessee State students aren't taking advantage of that program," said Fraser, who is USA Today education manager, national education programs. "The program, once it's in place, is usually successful." He said Tennessee State "is not alone, but is one of the few" to discontinue it.

As of March, nine of the 350 schools participating were historically black colleges or universities. In addition to Tennessee State, they were Wiley and Bethune-Cookman colleges and Alabama A&M, Delaware State, Elizabeth City State, Florida A&M, Grambling State and Norfolk State universities.

"I used to take full advantage of the program last year when I stayed in Rudolph Residence Center, said Marquita Ector, a senior fashion design major from Chattanooga, Tenn. "I think they should be in the dorms. Because of us being on the university campus,

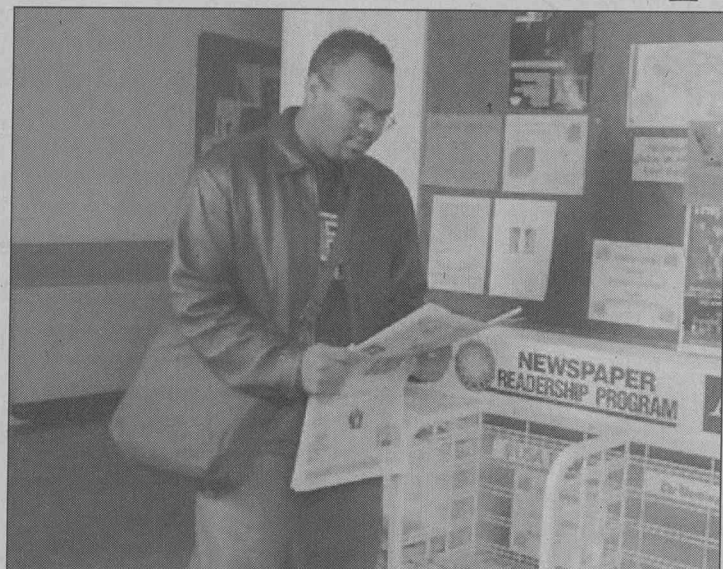


PHOTO CREDIT: USA TODAY COLLEGIATE READERSHIP PROGRAM

American University in Washington is one of 350 schools participating in the Collegiate Readership Program. Nine are historically black colleges or universities.

we need to have access to papers because some of us students, including myself, don't have transportation and would like to keep up with current events by other means than watching the news."

Some faculty members agree. "Nothing takes the place of pick-

ing up a book or newspaper," said Barry Scott, theater manager. "Many students don't have mobility and it would be an idea maybe for the department to get a subscription," speaking of the communications department. "We do read and those papers should be available as

they are at Vanderbilt as well as David Lipscomb," referring to two other Nashville universities.

With the discontinuation of the program, the library will be the only place students will have access to different kinds of newspapers for free, other than online through their personal computers.

However, Shamika Wright-Atcher said she did not miss not the free newspaper subscriptions in her dormitory.

"I usually watch the news or hear it from someone else," said Wright-Archer, a sophomore biology/pre-med major from Memphis. "I have so much school work to read that I don't want to read the paper."

Her view is becoming more common. A new report to the Carnegie Corporation of New York says, "the future of the U.S. news industry is seriously threatened by the seemingly irrevocable move by young people away from traditional sources of news." It added, "among 18-to-34-year-olds, local TV is ranked as the most used source of news, with over 70 percent of the age group using it at least once a week and over half of those sur-

veyed using local TV news at least three times a week."

The Collegiate Readership Program argues in its promotional material, however, that, "Easy access to daily newspapers will make your students more inclined to read the news on a regular basis, and will heighten their awareness of the world in which we live."

In addition to the newspapers supplied at Tennessee State through the Collegiate Readership Program, the library provides other newspapers from across the nation. Shirley Wallace, a library assistant, said 266 newspapers were delivered in August.

In addition, the university's Web site offers the News Bank, located in the library section of www.tnstate.edu, so that students can read other newspapers online and search these papers' archives.

"TSU students need to know that these services are available to them," said Lynetta Alexander, Tennessee State librarian.

Ashley Goodman, a communications student at Tennessee State University, originally wrote this for the Meter.

South Africa to outlaw virginity tests

BY SHASHANK BENGALI
KRT

PIETERMARITZBURG, South Africa — Wearing tight braids, dark sunglasses and a trendy white tracksuit, Nokuthula Shezi looks like your typical, appearance-conscious 17-year-old.

But she's careful not to attract the wrong kind of attention. She's a virgin, and so determined to remain one that every month she submits to a virginity test, letting an older woman inspect her body for signs that she's been sexually active.

Hundreds of girls like Shezi go for monthly tests in this Zulu-speaking, largely rural region of South

Africa, where being certified a virgin gives a girl status. An ancient Zulu rite of womanhood, virginity testing has been revived in recent years in an effort to shield girls from the region's high rates of child rape, teen pregnancy and AIDS.

Now South Africa is about to ban virginity testing after years of criticism from rights groups who say the tests are invasive, medically unsound and biased against girls.

The ban is part of a children's rights bill that's passed South Africa's Parliament and is awaiting approval by a council of provinces. The bill also would regulate several religious and cultural practices

deemed harmful to children. It outlaws female genital mutilation, gives boys the right to refuse ritual circumcision and prohibits forced marriage.

But it's the clause on virginity testing that's stirred the most controversy, pitting rights groups against South Africa's large and politically sensitive Zulu community and its traditional beliefs.

"The people who are saying this is a violation of our rights, they should come and talk to us instead of talking on our behalf," Shezi said.

"They have never asked us about our beliefs."

Originally used in the Zulu king-

dom to set bridal dowries, 11 head of cattle for a virgin instead of the standard 10, virginity testing died out in the 20th century under white rule. In the mid-1990s it resurfaced in KwaZulu-Natal as South Africa saw a sudden spike in deaths from AIDS.

The woman seen as the driving force behind the movement, a traditional healer named Nomagugu Ngobese, said she had a dream in 1994 that urged her to save Zulu girls from the AIDS epidemic. She began advocating virginity tests and claims to have inspected several thousand girls.

One weekend each month, several girls come to Ngobese for testing,

some as young as 6, most with their mothers.

They share stories, discuss Zulu culture and talk about the dangers of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease.

Later, behind the cover of towels, Ngobese inspects each girl to determine whether she's a virgin. The test is usually over in a minute.

The monthly sessions reinforce Zulu traditions and encourage girls to delay sex until marriage, she said, and are much more effective than government policies promoting condoms to prevent HIV infection.

Some 5.3 million South Africans are infected with HIV and the gov-

ernment's feeble response to the epidemic has been criticized worldwide.

"They have failed to talk responsibly about sexuality," Ngobese said. "They have failed dismally to minimize HIV/AIDS. They can criticize our culture but no one has died from virginity testing."

Despite all the criticism, she said, none of her detractors has seen her conduct a test.

"They are trying to distract from the issue that they have done nothing about HIV/AIDS," Ngobese said. "But we are going to keep doing this. They will have to imprison me. We are not going to stop."

Bush travels to Asia

BY RON HUTCHESON
KRT

WASHINGTON — President Bush headed to Asia on Nov. 14 to reassert American leadership in a region increasingly dominated by China.

China's growing economic clout and global influence hang over every stop on the president's week-long trip to Japan, South Korea, China and Mongolia. With 1.3 billion people and the world's fastest growing economy, China has become a source of admiration and tension, as well as a vital trading partner, for its neighbors.

China also plays a big role in the U.S. economy. Bush said he'd press Chinese leaders to buy more U.S. goods, lift currency controls that discourage imports to China and crack down on counterfeit movies and other violations of intellectual property rights.

He'll have plenty of other issues to talk about during his travels. Although the president will visit some of the enduring symbols of Asia's ancient past, he'll be dealing with a host of current and future problems, the nuclear threat from North Korea, the possibility of an avian flu pandemic and tensions between China and its neighbors.

In contrast to the usual happy talk that precedes presidential visits, Bush made little effort to downplay differences with China.

"It's a mixed relationship," he told a reporter for Phoenix Television, a Hong Kong-based network, last week. "There is a lot of good that we're doing together. And there are a lot of areas where we might not have full agreement."

Speaking directly to Chinese views, Bush added, "We want to have good relations with you."

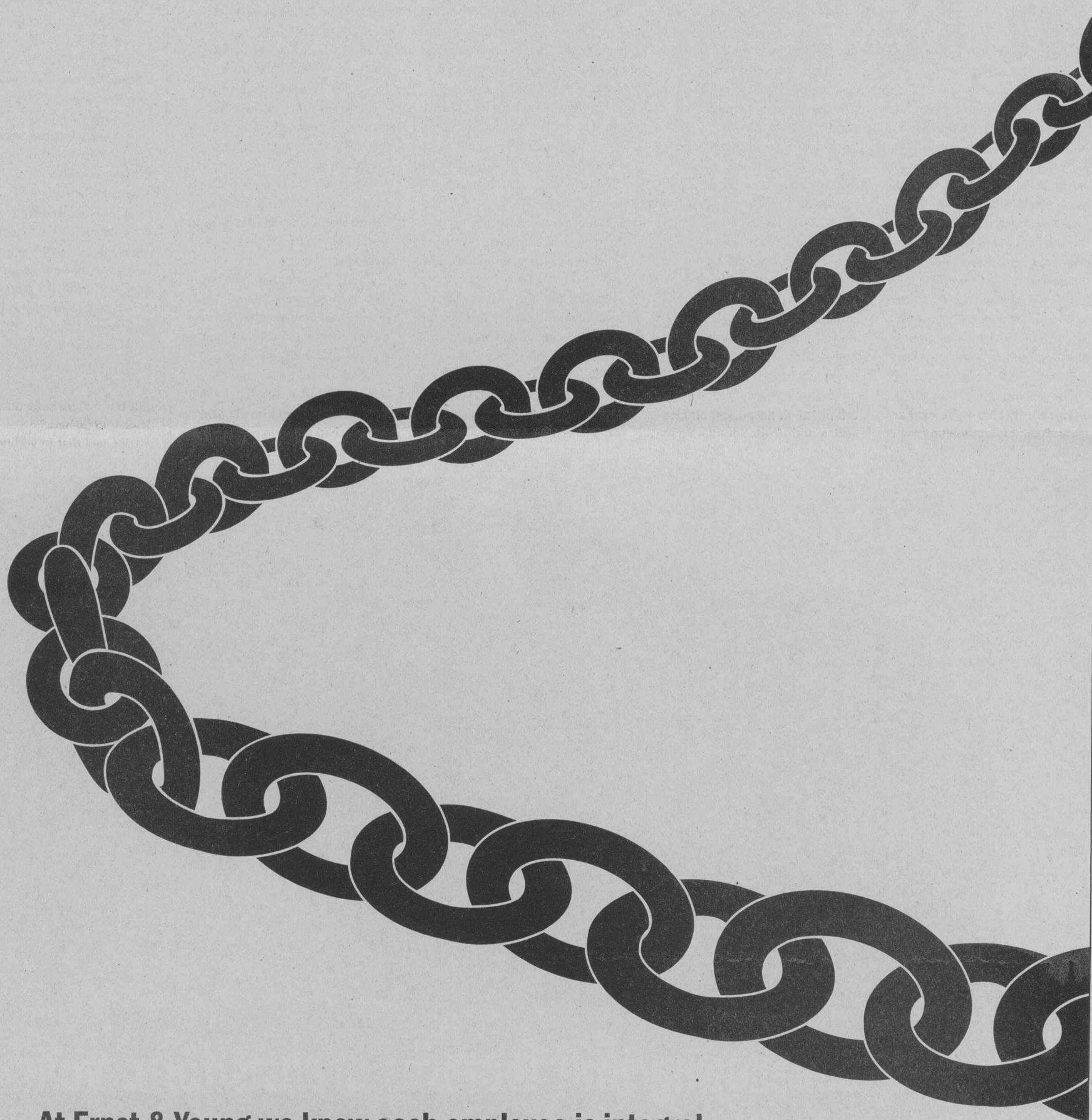
But tensions flared even before Bush's departure from the White House.

On Nov. 8, the State Department issued a report documenting China's violations of religious freedom. On Nov. 9, Bush drew objections from Chinese officials by hosting the Dalai Lama, the exiled spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhists, at the White House.

In another development that could add to the strain, Chinese authorities took three Catholic clerics into custody last week, according to a Roman Catholic group that monitors events in China. The detainees included 70-year-old Bishop Julius Jia Zhiguo. The Chinese government has established government-controlled religious organizations. However, it prohibits the official Chinese Catholic church from having affiliation with the Vatican.

Also last week, a Chinese court sentenced Cai Zhuohua, a pastor in China's non-government-sanctioned Protestant church, to three years in prison for illegally printing and distributing Bibles and other religious books.

Bush said he intends to discuss his own faith with Chinese President Hu Jintao while pressing for more religious freedom in China. Next Sunday, Bush will join worshippers at a government-sanctioned Protestant church in Beijing.



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Cheney presses on despite diminishing clout, image

BY RON HUTCHESON
KRT

WASHINGTON — The most powerful vice president in American history no longer seems quite so powerful.

After five years at the center of President Bush's inner circle, Dick Cheney has been hit with a host of problems that have tarnished his image and raised questions about his effectiveness. His top aide resigned after being indicted, his poll numbers have plummeted and even some of his fellow Republicans are questioning his judgment on issues related to Iraq and terrorism.

While Cheney is conducting business as usual, he's meeting resistance as never before on Capitol Hill and within the Bush administration.

"There seems to be a kind of collective consciousness that he's become weakened," said Steven Clemons, a foreign policy specialist at the New America Foundation, a public-policy group that seeks to bridge partisan differences. "He's going to continue to matter, but is he going to matter as much as he did before? Probably not."

White House officials dispute suggestions that Cheney is on the outs with Bush, but there's no question that the indictment last month of I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, Cheney's former chief of staff, has taken a toll. A poll conducted for NBC and The Wall Street Journal last weekend found that only 27 percent of Americans have a positive opinion of the vice president, down from 42 percent in January.

Most politicians in Cheney's situation would scramble to change course, but he isn't like most politi-

cians. Days after Libby resigned, Cheney replaced him with David Addington, another longtime adviser, who helped draft a 2002 memo defending the use of torture in some circumstances.

The vice president courted more controversy by taking the lead role in trying to exempt the CIA from a ban on cruel and inhumane interrogation techniques.

"I just don't think he cares," said Rich Galen, a Republican consultant and a Cheney defender. "He believes that we are, in fact, at war. When you're at war, you can't be distracted by these kinds of things. He's going to move ahead."

Lea Anne McBride, Cheney's spokeswoman, offered a similar assessment while rebuffing questions about his state of mind and his standing in the White House. McBride said Cheney was focused, "as always," on "protecting the American people."

When Bush first came to Washington, Cheney was widely viewed as the experienced, steady hand in an untested White House. Now he's more likely to be pilloried as the hawk who helped push the president into a messy war that could drag on for years.

Longtime associates say Cheney has become obsessed with the threat of terrorism, especially the possibility of a biological, chemical or nuclear attack. By Bush's description, Cheney was "gung-ho" for war with Iraq well before the president committed to it.

Republicans who once bit their tongues or limited their criticism of Cheney to the cocktail circuit are starting to go public. Associates from Cheney's days as defense secretary under President George H.W. Bush say they don't understand him.

"I consider Cheney a good friend; I've known him for 30 years. But Dick Cheney I don't know anymore," Brent Scowcroft, national security adviser to the elder Bush, told The New Yorker magazine in a recent article that detailed Scowcroft's disagreements with the current president.

In another high-profile break with the administration, Larry Wilkerson, who served as chief of staff under former Secretary of State Colin Powell, accused Cheney and Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld of leading a secretive "cabal" that hijacked foreign policy.

Not surprisingly, Democrats have been even more acerbic. In a recent conference call, former Sen. Bob Graham of Florida essentially accused Cheney of plotting with Libby to expose CIA officer Valerie Plame in retaliation for her husband's opposition to the Iraq war.

The indictment against Libby accuses him of thwarting the investigation into Plame's exposure by lying to the FBI and to a federal grand jury. Cheney hasn't been accused of any wrongdoing.

"It's hard to believe that the chief of staff to the vice president was acting as a rogue agent," said Graham, a former chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee. "I think it means he has been a conspirator in one of the most reprehensible and damaging breaches of American security in modern history."

Fair or not, the torrent of criticism has damaged Cheney's ability to serve as an administration spokesman.

"When was the last time he went on the Sunday talk shows? He increasingly seems limited to Rush Limbaugh or campaign appear-

ances," said Joel Goldstein, a law professor at St. Louis University who specializes in the role of vice presidents. "Anytime a vice president's prestige goes down, it has some impact on his influence in the West Wing."

Other administration officials, mostly notably Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, are pushing back against some of Cheney's hard-line views. Cheney's press for a CIA exemption from the ban on inhumane interrogation techniques is meeting strong resistance at the State Department and from officials in the intelligence community who are convinced not only that torture yields bad information but also that permitting it injures America's image around the world.

A Republican consultant who insisted on anonymity to avoid an open break with the White House said Cheney also had lost influence on Capitol Hill.

"He's the wrong messenger," the operative said. "He's really dropped off the planet up there."

Still, Cheney hardly has been cut adrift. After more than three decades in Washington, he has allies throughout the government and the Republican Party. He remains popular with grassroots conservatives.

"They love the guy," said Galen, who described Cheney, Bush and White House adviser Karl Rove as "the Holy Trinity for the Republican base."

Cheney has another advantage that sets him apart, Renouncing presidential ambitions, he says his top priority after Bush leaves office is to go fly-fishing.

"If you really want to do him damage, steal his flies. That would hit him," Galen joked. "News coverage isn't going to do it."

Democrats up number of seats in 2006 elections

BY KENNETH R. BASINET
KRT

WASHINGTON — Democrats, confident they are facing a seriously wounded White House and a limping GOP, are arming for a battle early next year they hope will instantly turn President Bush into a lame duck.

Suddenly, the rejuvenated Democratic Party is excited about possibly wresting control of the House or Senate from Republicans, according to top Democratic strategists.

In just the past two weeks, Democrats have doubled the number of Senate seats they are targeting, training their sights on vulnerable Republican incumbents in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Rhode Island and Missouri.

Democrats also believe they are ahead of schedule on the "mechanics of winning in 2006," said a top strategist. The Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee already has \$20 million on hand, the party is recruiting competitive House and Senate candidates, and coordinated state-by-state strategies are being drafted.

"For the first time, we're going to have this stuff done a year out," the source said.

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid, of Nevada, already has rolled out a campaign rallying cry, "we can do better", while simultaneously arguing that the Republicans have "a culture of corruption."

Several strategists and party activists told the New York Daily News the real fight won't begin until Bush's State of the Union address early next year. Democrats intend to vigorously accuse Bush of failing the troops in Iraq, wasting a chance to bolster national

security, leaving the United States dependent on overseas oil and a greedy oil industry, denying Americans affordable health care and encouraging rampant government spending.

In touting their newfound party pride, Democrats point to four major events that have emboldened them:

-Bush's devastatingly slow response to Hurricane Katrina, and subsequent gas-price increases and shortages.

-A White House senior aide's indictment in the CIA leak probe.

-The successful shutdown of the Senate that forced the GOP leadership to reopen the probe into false intelligence leading up to the Iraq war.

Senior Democratic strategist Howard Wolfson said the Virginia victory cannot be understated. "It energizes the party, the activists and the donors," Wolfson said. "We've been losing since 2000. This was a big deal."

But still-optimistic Republicans think Bush can recover and Democrats will overplay their opportunity by failing to have a positive message that resonates with the voters.

"The best thing Bush has going for him is the Democrats," said a close Bush adviser. "Their 'culture of corruption' crap is not biting with people, and they don't have any alternative ideas of their own."

Citing the Republican takeover of Congress in 1994, Wolfson says his party has time to hone its message. "I'm one of those people who remembers that the Contract with America was put forward in the fall of 1994," he said. "There's plenty of time for Democrats to set their agenda going into the midterms."

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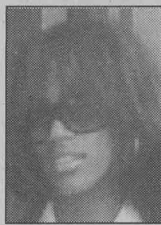
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Word on the Street is...

BY: CANDRA WHITLEY
Arts and Entertainment Editor



The biggest thing going on around campus right now is

the BET new faces search.

Beginning in early October many hopefuls turned out in the thousands to try their luck in being a new face on BET. Their mission is a simple one - discover new talent to support the many new programs being added to the network.

Details were finalized and the audition locations selected as BET looks for talented non-professionals between the ages of 18-28 with dreams of becoming a star.

There were lots of people that were good at what they did, but none was better than the 5 winners, ESPECIALLY our very own Terrance J. From day one Terrance J showed that his radio training and public relations background would help him step out to the front of the pack.

Even with all the hating that was taking place on the BET message boards (go check it out), people as well as Aggies were supporting him full force. And thanks to our support and his personal determination...he is BET's newest face!

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50 Cent's movie worth the bucks

BY MICHAEL IVEY JR.
Black College Wire

Many were expecting the worst from 50 Cent's acting debut, but "Get Rich or Die Tryin'," named after his multi-platinum debut album, is a safe avenue for the CEO of G-Unit Records to enter Hollywood.

Curtis Jackson, aka 50 Cent, brings a ready-made fan base to theaters via his music, bolstered by the release of an all-new 50 Cent/G-Unit soundtrack.

An unauthorized biographical DVD, "Refuse To Die," was released by New Line Entertainment. Add in that some Los Angeles and Philadelphia communities removed billboards that displayed 50's tattooed back, a microphone in one hand and a gun in the other, and the stage is set for the controversy connoisseur to show his story to the world.

In the film, Marcus, aka Young Caesar (50 Cent), spends most of his time at his grandparents' house because his mother Katrina (Serena Reeder) is always out hustling for neighborhood boss Majestic (Adele Akinnuoye-Agbaje). Marcus misses her, but is preoccupied by the luxuries his job affords and by rapping, mostly about his girlfriend Charlene (Joy Bryant).

During an argument between Katrina and another dealer, Katrina is killed. Marcus vows revenge. He begins dealing, and Majestic takes the kid under his wing. Marcus buys his first gun, and we fast-forward to his high school days as he aims the gun at a mirror in his cramped cellar apartment. He gets busted in school for drug possession, and

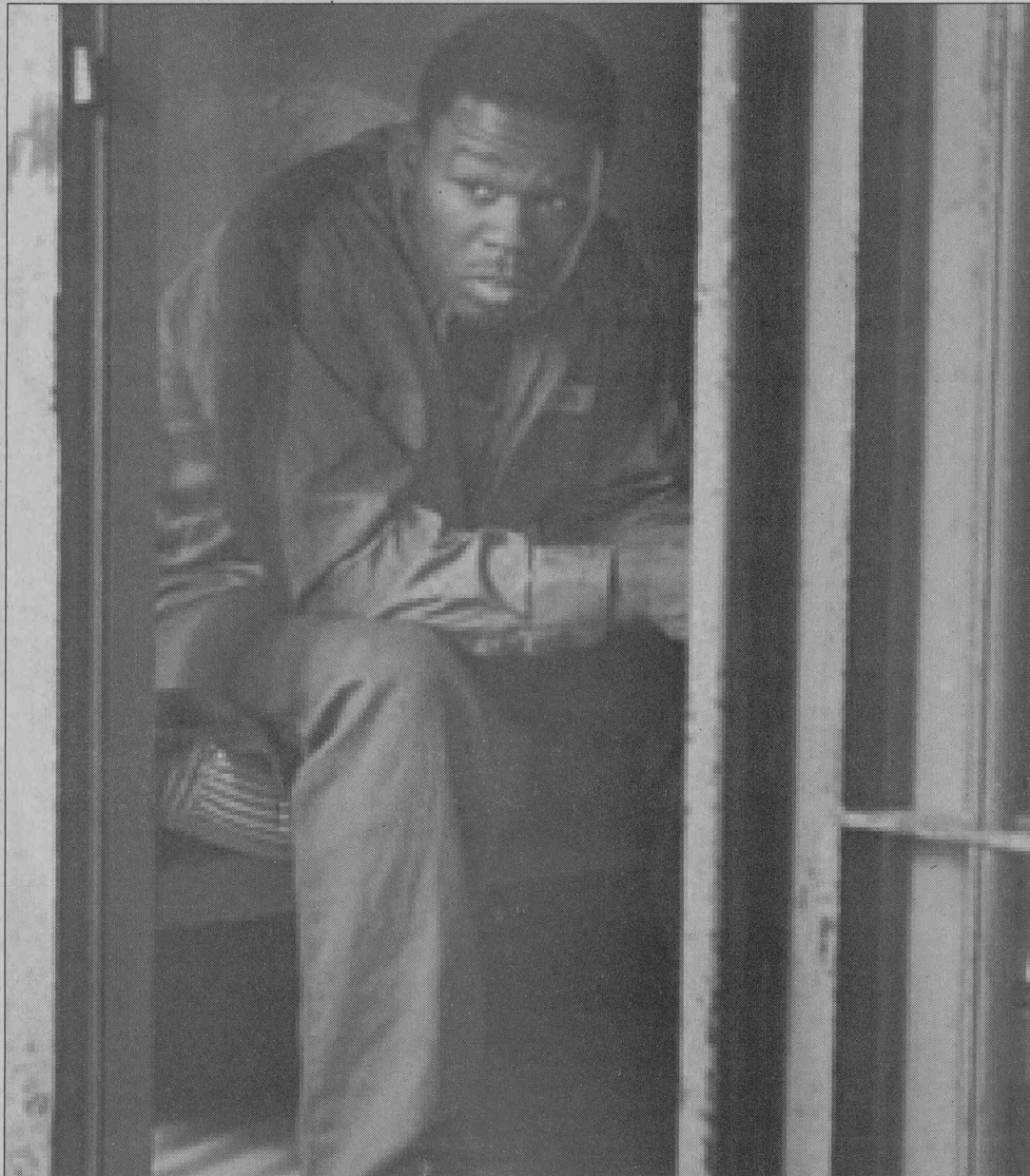


PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES

During a brief prison stint, 50 Cent's character Marcus discovers a passion for writing music.

when his grandfather berates Marcus after a court hearing, he proclaims, "I'm a gangsta, Grandpa. And I'm proud of it."

During a brief prison stint,

Marcus discovers a passion for writing music and meets Bama (Terrence Howard), who saves his life and subsequently becomes his manager. The change of focus

and association leaves Marcus on the outside of Majestic's circle, and therefore in harm's way.

"Get Rich or Die Tryin'" is entertaining throughout.

However, it's not as "ultra" gangster" or unrealistically underdog-driven as one might expect.

The plot shows a young man emotionally corrupted by his environment and the death of his mother.

Marcus is portrayed as a survivor. The key shooting scene is done well by Declan Quinn, the director of photography, and by Jim Sheridan, producer/director. It's a believable recreation of a man surviving nine shots at close range.

We get to see 50 Cent in a very different light when Marcus reunites with his childhood girlfriend. During his recovery from the shooting, Charlene questions whether he has the heart to continue striving. He breaks down crying.

50 Cent picked the safest and smartest role possible - himself.

However, this doesn't necessarily feel as if we're watching 50 play 50. His acting coaches deserve enormous credit.

The most glaring negative is Marcus' lack of emotional arch. He is not as ruthless during his hustling days; therefore, when he turns to music, it's the same anger - just a different target. It's not necessarily music that motivates Marcus, but humiliating his former employer through his music. This takes away from the idea of hip-hop as the gangster's saving grace. The film also seems to be set in the eighties, but the wardrobe suggests a later period.

In all, 50 Cent's celebrity and the sensationalism of his story turn a decent film into a very entertaining comparison of life and art.

Michael Ivey Jr., a student at Howard University, writes for the Hilltop



PHOTO COURTESY OF CARTOON NETWORK

'Boondocks' reaches mainstream viewers

BY PHILIP MORGAN
Contributor

Aaron McGruder's sometimes controversial comic strip "The Boondocks" has found a home on Cartoon Network.

"The Boondocks" is Cartoon Network's Adult Swim programming block newest show about two inner-city children being moved to the suburbs by their grandfather. Since it airs late at night it gets away with material no other network, except maybe Comedy Central, would allow. It premiered Nov. 6.

The strip was first published in the University of Maryland's paper, The Diamondback, by the infamous Jayson Blair.

It is now carried by almost 350 newspapers; however some have moved it to the editorial page. It has been pulled by some because of its use of the "n-word."

Fox had originally made a pilot but McGruder didn't like the way it had turned out. So the project was put on hold. Cartoon

Network came into the mix and allowed McGruder the freedom with the show that Fox denied him.

The show's main characters are 10-and-8-year-olds Huey; some might consider a black militant and Riley Freeman, a gangsta rapper wannabe, voiced by movie actress Regina King, and their Granddad, voiced by John Witherspoon (Pops from the Waynes Brothers). Ed Asner and Charlie Murphy also appeared in the first episode.

The artwork is excellent and appears to be anime influenced. The children have wide eyes and raised foreheads, typically found in anime. The opening scene borrows from fan-favorite animes such as Samurai Champloo and Cowboy Bebop. McGruder said that he would like the strip to look as good as the show but CN's artists are better than him.

The premiere episode, "The Garden Party", opened with Huey dreaming of inciting a riot by telling rich white people that "Jesus was black, Ronald Reagan

was the devil, and the government is lying about 9/11." It pokes fun at race and social classes; something that most networks won't touch.

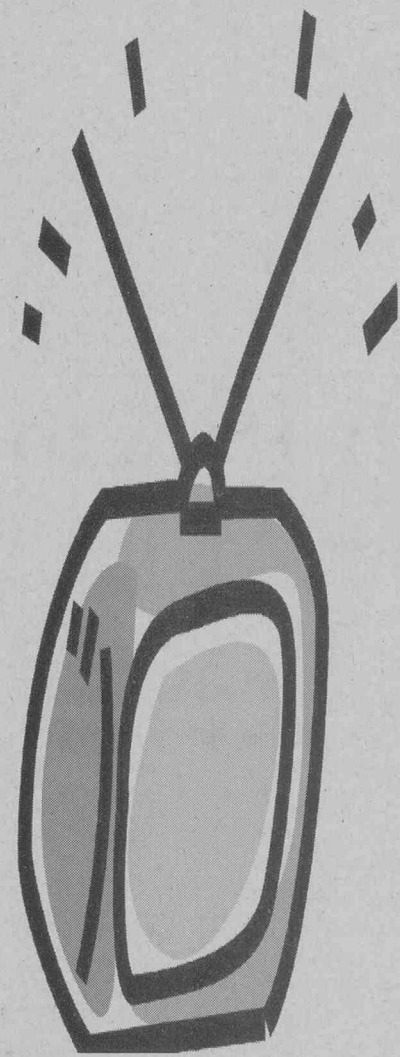
"The Trial of R. Kelly", as you can tell by the name, was centered on the alleged child pornographer's trial. Outside the court house are his supporters, one of whom is Riley, and his protesters. In one scene Rosa Parks is seen fighting with one of his supporters. However, this scene, and any mention of her, was taken out upon the Civil Rights icon's death.

So, if you are offended by racial and satirical humor don't watch "The Boondocks." On second thought, watch it anyway. It may make you think about certain subjects.

New episodes air Sunday nights at 11 with Sundays at 12 a.m.

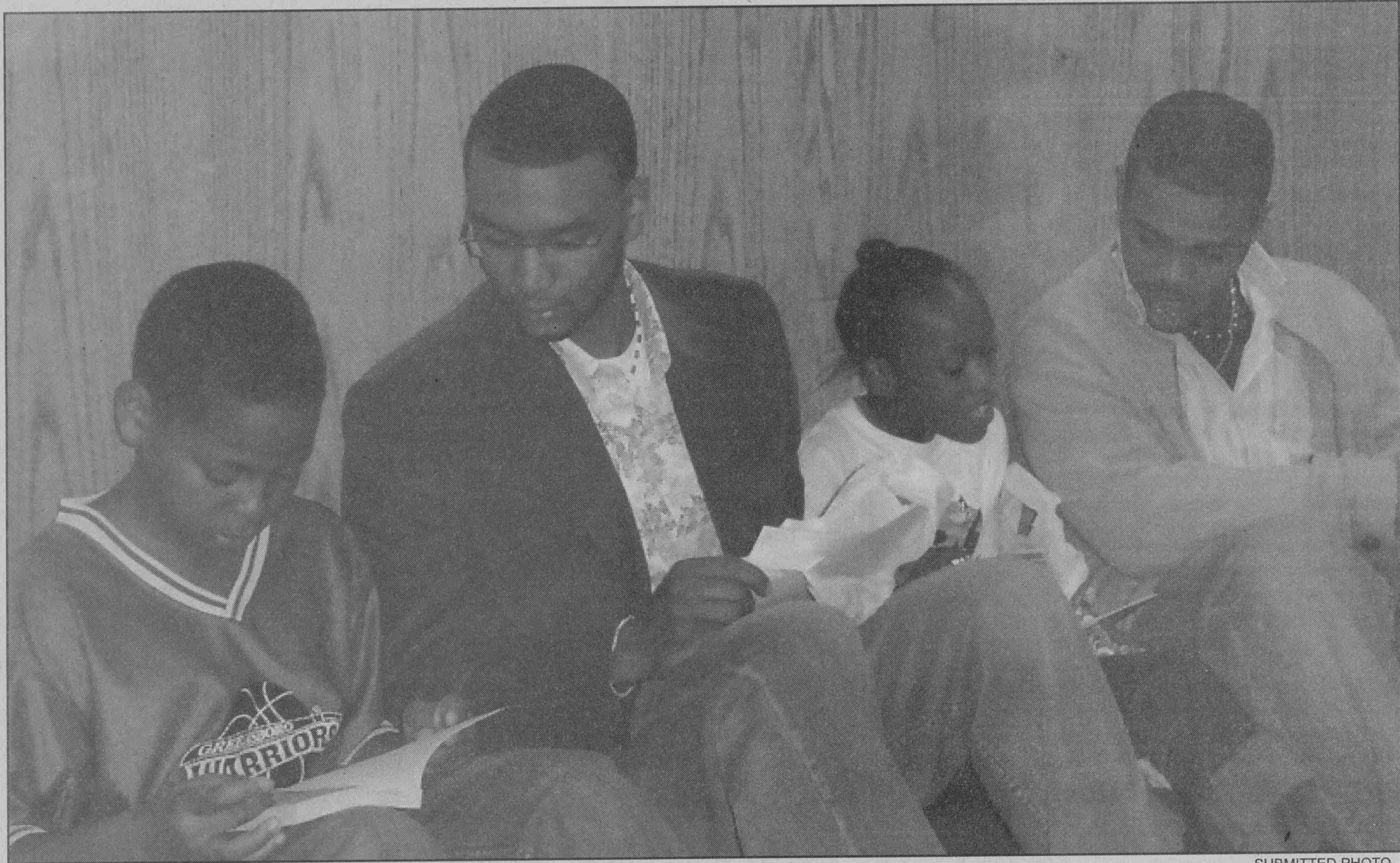
A word of advice for those who can't see the joke in racial humor: stay away from Cartoon Network's "Minoriteam." You will either laugh or be completely disgusted.

Stars are made at NCAYT....



Make sure you stay tuned next week for my one-on-one interview with BET's newest face.....

TERRANCE J!!



Kappa Alpha Psi members Corey Caldwell and Brandon Dillahunt listen while Jones Elementary School students read to them during the Hooked on Books program.

Greeks listen to the kids

Fraternity members give kids a shoulder to lean on

BY PORTIA RANKIN
Contributor

The Alpha Nu Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. and the Beta Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. participated in community service activities, proving that Greek life is not all about partying and stepping.

The program, Hooked on Books, sponsored by the Teague Family Foundation, is a program that provides underprivileged children with the opportunity to purchase books to increase their reading skills. Curtis Nash, the community service chair for Alpha Phi Alpha, said he was informed about the community service project by Sharon Hoard, from the education department.

"[Hoard was] looking for elite organizations to get involved,"

Nash said.

Seven members from each organization were appointed a child from a list of 14 third to fourth graders from Jones elementary school in Greensboro.

The program begins with each individual meeting their buddy at a local McDonalds and having lunch with them. Through this initial meeting, the volunteers were able to talk with the children to get an understanding of their backgrounds and interests.

After having lunch, the volunteers met their buddy at Borders bookstore where the children were given a gift card for \$66. They were given two designated books they had to choose: a children's dictionary and poetry book.

The children were not allowed to purchase toys with their cards. This trip to Boarder's not only taught

them the importance of reading but also how to budget.

When the children finished picking out their books with the help of their mentor, they read with them.

Corey Caldwell, Kappa Alpha Psi member, said he thinks that the program is great.

"[H.O.B.] gives books interest in their lives; reading is fundamental. You have to be able to read to do anything," Caldwell said.

Lawrence Wills, an Alpha Phi Alpha member, said that reading with the children brought back memories of his childhood.

"Remembering how you were at that age and being able to relate, it helps to have the kind of people who went through similar situations and how education is important other than by their teachers," Lawrence Wills said.

The volunteers return every week to help and talk with their buddy to see their improvement. Kappa Alpha Psi member Bryan Waring said the organization would participate in H.O.B. every chance they got.

"If they have it every week, we go," Waring said.

The program does not stop with reading to the children. It also includes spending time with the children in other activities.

"Me and my buddy exchanged numbers. He wanted me to come along to a museum trip with him," Wills said.

Caldwell said that the H.O.B. volunteers not only improve the children's scholastic skills, but also their self esteems and serve as positive role models that they might not have had before.

"A positive role model to look up

to; someone to give encouragement and someone to talk to," Caldwell said.

Nash said the program also helps the volunteers.

"Being able to see young kids with smiles on their faces getting books instead of a video game—that made my day," Nash said.

"[This] excellent program should be used for every elementary school," Nash said.

Some schools, however, are not able to participate in H.O.B. because of funding, but over time the program may be able to spread. Children who would otherwise not have the opportunity to learn to read and have a positive role model are provided with such through this program.

Study tries to understand intellectual life

BY ALEXIS MASON
Contributor

Chancellor James C. Renick appointed a 25-member commission called the University Commission of the Intellectual Life of our Campus to study and assess the level of intellectual life on A&T's campus.

The purpose or charge of this commission is to assess the intellectual climate of the campus, engage the campus community in a conversation regarding the current and future intellectual climate on campus and provide recommendations to enhance the university's intellectual life.

The assessment comes in the form of a survey.

In January of 2005, the commission began to develop the Intellectual Life Survey by holding town hall meetings to review feelings about the level of intellectual life on campus and to see if the questions admitted on the survey were clear and that it covered the four charges of the commission — undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty and staff.

"We hosted town hall meetings with the students, staff and faculty separately to pilot the survey," said Dr. Cathy Kea, co-chair of the commission.

The meeting for faculty and staff was held during June and graduate students' meeting was held in September.

"This [the meetings] really clarified a lot of things for us and gave

us a better understanding on how to conduct the surveys," Kea said.

The surveys, which will be distributed November 14-18, consist of five sections with about six questions pertaining to intellectual life

"A&T is a very famous institution, but it's more on a social level and not so much on an intellectual level and that's what this commission is trying to work on, Mimi Getachew said."

in the classrooms, intellectual life outside the classroom, intellectual life as it relates to civic responsibility and service learning as it relates to roles and rewards of the faculty and staff.

"The way the questions are designed we're hoping to be able to see what the perceptions are of the different constituent groups and what they perceive to be barriers," Kea said.

There is also a section on the survey where students, faculty and

staff can give their comments, thoughts and recommendations.

"We really want to see how the campus as a whole views intellectual life not just what one individual group thinks," said Dr. Alvin Keys Co-Chairperson of the commission and Chairperson of the survey committee.

For students, the survey will be distributed amongst large class sizes with 75 or more students that are pre-selected to represent cross sections of the student body representing classifications and majors.

"By distributing the surveys in the classrooms, it gives us a chance to get as much feedback as we can because if we leave it voluntarily up to students then we may not get the feedback we need," said Dominique Tillman, a student representative on the commission.

The survey will be given "the paper and pencil" method instead of having a web based survey.

"When we met with the different groups, many of them said that not everyone had access to a computer," said Kea. "Also, we found that not everyone is computer savvy."

For the faculty and staff, the surveys will be administered during college departmental and staff meetings.

Many of the committee members said they feel that the results of the survey will better the campus' both outer and inner appearance.

"It will give the administration, as well as the decision makers, a chance to see what type of intellectual climate we have on this cam-

pus and start changing things for the better," Tillman said.

"I'm on the commission to improve the image of A&T," said Mimi Getachew, a student representative on the commission.

"I feel that A&T is a very famous institution, but it's more on a social level and not so much on an intellectual level and that's what this commission is trying to work on," he added.

Students, faculty and staff will have another opportunity to participate in the survey during January 9-15. Once the data is analyzed, there will be a community town hall meeting where students, faculty, and staff will receive the results.

The results will be presented to Chancellor James C. Renick and will be posted during April 2006.

Just Curious...

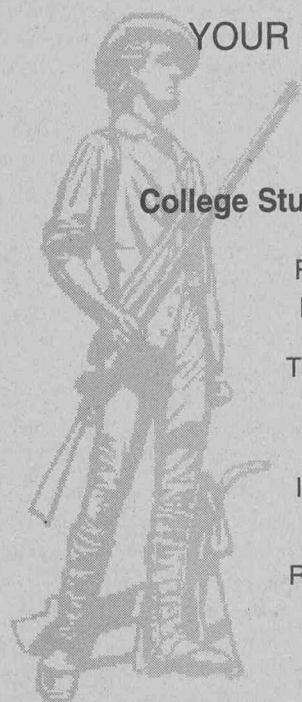


BY STANCHEKA BOONE
Features Editor

1. Did blowing Nintendo cartridges really make the game play better?
2. Seems like it, right?
3. Since winning BET New Faces, is Terrence J going to represent A&T or Atlanta?
4. Why do the before-and-after pictures on weight loss commercials never look like the same person?
5. Why do none of the people who lose the weight ever get stretch marks?
6. Do students read other sections of the paper besides 'Just Curious'?
7. Why are pin numbers guarded so hard?
8. Is it Fall yet?
9. Is \$2.25 cheap or expensive for a gallon of gas?
10. A month after later, why are signs announcing homecoming still up?
11. Will NCB be named NCB forever?
12. How much will someone have to pay before the name is changed?
13. Is Terrell Owens going to ever talk about people again?
14. Why do people feel so comfortable do things in hotel rooms?
15. Do they not realize that the people in the room before them may have been doing the same things?
16. With toilets having so many germs, is it really safe to keep toothbrushes in the bathroom?
17. Did all high school students do the same things on band buses?
18. Why do so many people call themselves divas?
19. Do any of them know the true definition of the word diva?
20. It is a distinguished singer. (I answered my own question!)

CORRECTION

THE SGA MADE IT MANDATORY THAT THE HOMECOMING FASHION SHOW BE HOSTED BY CULTURE PRODUCTIONS AND VERGE MODELING TROUPE.



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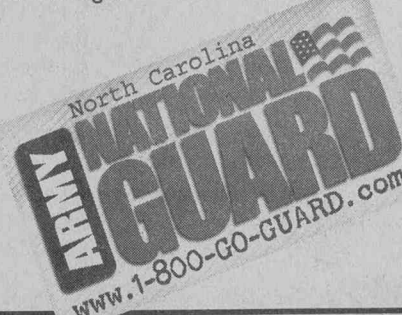
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What's News-

In Business and Finance

Signs of Cooling
In Housing Market

The pace of U.S. home sales is showing further signs of slowing, amid a widening gap between sellers' asking prices and the amount skittish buyers are prepared to offer, according to an industry survey (see chart), real-estate brokerage firms and housing economists.

Rising mortgage rates, higher energy costs, widespread talk about the risk of a "bubble" in housing and a surge in the number of homes on the market are among the factors behind the apparent slowdown. Economists and real-estate brokers say buyers are taking their time to look for bargains, while many sellers have put unrealistically high price tags on their homes.

The \$2 trillion housing market has been the primary driver of consumer spending in recent years and accounts for about one-third of households' net worth. There hasn't been a sustained drop in housing prices in any major part of the U.S. in a decade or more, and housing has become a vital barometer for the financial, retail and homebuilding industries.

Warehouse Clubs

Go More Upscale

Warehouse club stores are spicing up their inventories for the holiday season with big-ticket indulgences like a \$6,000 Wurlitzer CD jukebox from BJ's Wholesale Club, an \$8,000 Suzuki grand piano at Costco, and even a \$198,000 custom-designed 1969 Camaro at Sam's Club. The moves reflect a strategy by the three companies to increase sales of impulse items that consumers perceive to be luxury at a discount.

Costco executives dismiss the more eye-popping items like the Sam's Club Camaro as "sticker shock," and suggest that Sam's is a copycat. "Everything that has been done in this business has been introduced by Costco," says the company's President and CEO Jim Sinegal, who is credited with pioneering the so-called treasure-hunt strategy by stocking luxury goods in Costco's cavernous stores.

Meanwhile, Sam's Club's sticker seems to be selling. Already, a woman who owns a Michigan business has paid \$30,000 for a trip for eight to a Jimmy Buffett concert in Las Vegas. "I think we'll sell them all, and we'll sell them quickly," says Sam's Chief Executive Doug McMillon.

Actors, Writers

Decry New Roles

Hollywood's writers and actors unions are pushing studios to agree to new rules covering product placements. The Writers Guild and the Screen Actors Guild complain that being called upon to promote products in movies and television shows hurts their artistic integrity, and that they aren't paid for helping to sell the products.

The Hollywood entertainment guilds say they want to negotiate a code of conduct that includes disclosure at the beginning of each movie and TV program of the advertising that has been woven into the script. They also want the studios to put limits on the use of such advertising in children's programming.

Network and studio executives argue they have no choice but to pursue such sources of income as technology makes it easier to skip traditional advertising methods such as the TV commercials.

Auto Prices Fall;

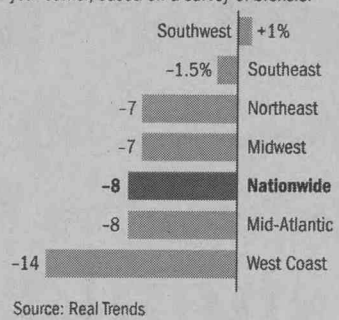
VW Pulls Phaeton

General Motors reintroduced heavy incentives on many models, slashing sticker prices by as much as \$10,000 on some cars and trucks.

The huge price cuts come after GM's sales plunged in October and as the world's largest auto maker grapples with a \$1.6 billion loss in the third quarter and decreasing market

Cold Snap

Change in the number of contracts signed in October to purchase homes compared with a year earlier, based on a survey of brokers:



share. Some of the new discounts are even better deals for car buyers than this summer's popular employee-discount program.

GM's major competitors are also offering big price breaks. Ford is offering \$2,000 cash back on the 2006 Explorer, while Chrysler is offering \$5,500 back on the 2005 Dodge Ram and \$2,500 back on the 2006 Dodge Durango.

Meanwhile, Volkswagen said it will pull its pricey Phaeton sedan from the U.S. market in February. The car, launched in the U.S. in 2003, was the centerpiece of a strategy to turn VW into more of a luxury-car maker. The Phaeton sells for \$68,000 to \$104,000. Last year, about 7,000 were sold world-wide. VW had aimed to sell about 20,000 a year.

Strikes Multiply

In U.S. Workplaces

The number of work stoppages in the U.S., including strikes by unions and management-sponsored lockouts, is on the upswing as tensions rise between workers and companies that are seeking to cut wages and benefits. The trend extends beyond the troubled auto and airline industries, as continuing strikes by telecom workers at Sprint and machinists at Boeing's rocket division attest.

Work stoppages, mostly strikes, are up 14% this year, according to Bureau of National Affairs Inc., a Washington, D.C., publisher of legal and regulatory information; 231 were initiated through the end of August, compared with 202 in the same period last year.

Stewart to End

Her Apprenticeship

Donald Trump will soon have "The Apprentice" to himself: Martha Stewart's version of the NBC reality series is ending next month.

NBC and executive producer Mark Burnett said the show's mediocre ratings had nothing to do with its short run. "The plan from the very beginning was always to produce only one cycle," NBC said.

Ms. Stewart's daytime show, "Martha," hasn't been a blockbuster, either. Its initial viewership was "below expectations," said Susan Lyne, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia's chief executive.

Odds & Ends

Higher natural-gas and electricity prices pushed up wholesale inflation last month. The producer price index for finished goods rose 0.7% after a 1.9% increase in September. The "core" index, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, fell 0.3%, the biggest monthly drop since April 2003.

By Jay Hershey

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Nike Seeks to Rehabilitate
NBA Star as Pitchman
With Trials Now Past

By STEPHANIE KANG

Two years ago, explosive criminal allegations against basketball superstar Kobe Bryant derailed his career as a pitchman for a variety of products. But with Mr. Bryant's legal problems now behind him, one of the few big companies that stuck with him—shoe giant Nike Inc.—is preparing to capitalize on its low-key two-year effort to keep him marketable.

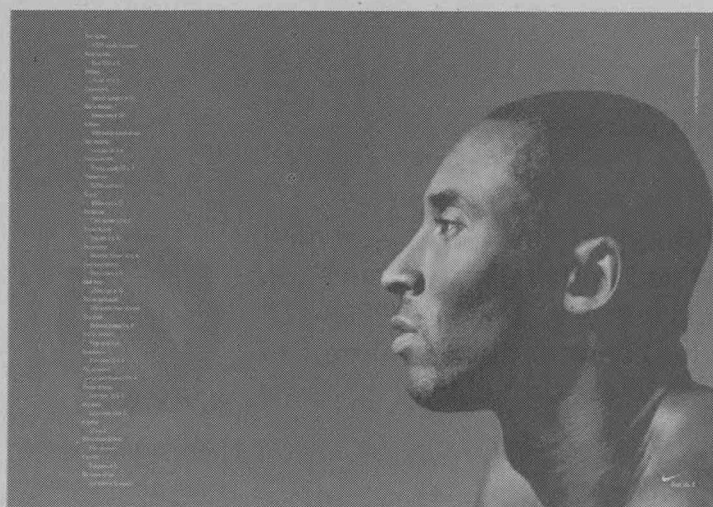
Mr. Bryant, the Los Angeles Lakers guard who was once one of the National Basketball Association's most popular stars, signed a four-year, \$45 million endorsement deal with Nike in June 2003. The agreement called for the company to create a line of signature sneakers and apparel for Mr. Bryant, with the star receiving royalties.

But just weeks after the deal was signed, Mr. Bryant was accused of sexual assault in Colorado. His image disappeared from ads produced for McDonald's Corp., Russell Corp.'s Spalding ball division and Nutella, part of confectioner Ferrero U.S.A. Inc. Coca-Cola Co. stopped running ads in which Mr. Bryant pitched the company's Sprite soda, later signing Cleveland Cavalier and fellow Nike endorser LeBron James to star in spots for its "Obey Your Thirst" campaign.

Now, two years later, the criminal case against Mr. Bryant has been dismissed and a related civil lawsuit has been settled. With a new NBA season in gear, Nike and Mr. Bryant are slowly relaunching the star's career as a product endorser.

Zoom Kobe I

The central part of the effort is a new basketball shoe tentatively called the Zoom Kobe I, which will step in for a different Kobe-branded shoe that was scheduled to be launched but was stripped of his



The first stage of Nike's Kobe Bryant ad campaign ran in Sports Illustrated.

name after his legal woes began.

Whether Mr. Bryant and Nike succeed may depend on how well the company has paved the way for a comeback. For the past couple of years, Nike quietly promoted Mr. Bryant's prospects with an under-the-radar campaign intended to keep the star's cachet high among shoe collectors and other taste makers, even as he fended off his legal problems.

Soon after the assault allegation, Nike said in a statement that it is "pleased to have a relationship with Kobe Bryant." He continued to wear the shoe Nike had developed for him in NBA games—after a recent Lakers practice, he said the shoe "came from my head"—but it was released to stores as a general basketball shoe called the Air Zoom Huarache 2K4. Dozens of NBA players wore it, and a later version, the 2K5. And ad spots for it featured NBA stars like the San Antonio Spurs' Manu Ginobili and Steve Nash, of the Phoenix Suns.

But even as Nike laid low, it was testing Mr. Bryant's long-term viability through back channels. Eventually, the shoemaker released Huaraches customized for Mr. Bryant that landed in upscale sneaker boutiques and on auction sites like eBay.

The reaction among shoe fans was strong.

Customized Huaraches—with details like Mr. Bryant's jersey number on the strap or his logo on the back heel of the shoe—quickly sold out at upscale retail shops. A Los Angeles sneaker shop called Undeclared last year raffled off a chance to win a pair of shoes specially made for Mr. Bryant, as well as tickets to the Lakers-Miami Heat game Christmas Day. Winners took home one of 25 pairs of shoes with laser etchings of "Kobe" on the tongue and Mr. Bryant's signature on the shoe.

The tiny production of such customized products helped build excitement in the shoe-collector world. Nike doesn't disclose how many shoes it makes, but retailers say it made only a few dozen pairs of a Huarache 2K5 shoe called L.A. Maps, which comes in Laker team colors with a map of Los Angeles lasered onto it. Those shoes, given to Mr. Bryant and select Nike staff, are now selling on eBay for more than \$1,000 a pair.

"It's a way to test the waters—ask, 'Could we introduce a full-fledged signature shoe?'" says Jim Andrews, senior vice president of IBG Inc., Chicago, which tracks sponsorships and endorsements.

AOL Touts
'Vintage'
Reruns

By MATTHEW KARNITSCHING

A major broadcast networks begin offering some of their hottest programs via video-on-demand, AOL and Warner Bros. have a new weapon of their own—"Welcome Back, Kotter."

In the latest sign that the rules of television are being turned on their head, the two divisions of Time Warner Inc. have formed a partnership to offer "vintage" shows, including "Kotter," "Wonder Woman" and "Kung Fu," free online.

It's not totally a free lunch. Unlike other recent on-demand offerings, which carry a fee but typically allow consumers to bypass advertising, the AOL-Warner Bros. service will include 15-second commercials that viewers can't circumvent. AOL-Warner Bros. will keep control of the video feed and viewers won't be allowed to record shows. Dubbed "In2TV," the service will start in January and initially include six channels, ranging from comedy to drama.

Beyond the ads, some analysts question how many people will watch entire TV shows on a computer screen—and whether the typically youthful online audience will be lured by decades-old fare.

The plan underscores the pressure media companies face to find new ways to reach consumers. For decades, Warner Bros., which has a library of 800 television shows, and other studios fiercely guarded their trove of programming. Syndicating old shows was one of their most lucrative businesses. Warner Bros.' move to open its vaults to Internet surfers marks a shift in that strategy, as new technologies give consumers access to a sea of content beyond the TV set.

Just last week, CBS and NBC signed distribution deals with cable and satellite providers to offer some of their most popular prime-time programming to viewers on demand for 99 cents per show. Also last week, Yahoo and TiVo launched a service that will allow TiVo owners to see select Yahoo Web services through a fast Internet connection that may eventually include video. Those agreements followed a deal between Apple Computer and ABC under which episodes of some ABC shows can be viewed on a video iPod for \$1.99.

In2TV plans to offer 300 episodes per month and about 100 shows in the first year.

The programs will be available to anyone with a fast Internet link.

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Politics, history collide in village

Arnita Moody, the vice president of internal affairs and head of the student senate, raised an interesting point recently: the name of the recently completed, 800-bed dormitory where Scott Hall used to stand.

Scott Hall was built in the early 1950's, and it housed more than 1,000 students, mostly males. When it was torn down, many alumni returned to campus for the going-away party and to grab a keepsake brick.

If the walls of Scott Hall could talk, listeners would hear tales of Jesse Jackson's political ambitions, the Jan. 31, 1960, planning session of the A&T Four, and the fear and anger of students trapped inside during the 1969 riots.

After its demolition, the four-wing Aggie Village was constructed in its place. The accommodations are clearly a step up from Scott Hall; modern luxuries like elevators, carpet, and central heat and air. Nobody has to worry about someone urinating in the radiator anymore.

But, as Moody has pointed out, Aggie Village is

somewhat generic and doesn't quite live up to the magic of the Scott Hall name. Leonard Jones, the executive director of housing and residence life, said the new name comes from the old African proverb and Hillary Clinton book, "it takes a village to raise a child."

Jones' logic is understandable. But students aren't interested. The popular facebook.com web site has a group named "The Village? ... I thought I lived in Scott!"

However, Jones has said he would be receptive to discussing changing the name in the future. And kudos to Moody for raising the issue and fulfilling her job as a representative of the student body.

This campus needs more debate and dialogue between students and administration. Renaming the university's biggest dorm would be a great place to start.

But, there's really no reason to put it off; start the debate now.

Apathy on the rise, students don't care

Apathy is the lack of interest or concern, especially regarding matters of general importance or appeal; indifference.

The above is an accurate definition of many of the students on campus; maybe.

Yes maybe, because apathy involves being indifferent to things that are important. It is possible that importance of certain things has waned or the things that did matter do not anymore.

Quite possible politics are not important, education is not important, experience does not matter, tuition does not matter, and excellence does not matter.

If they do matter and are important, then the above definition is absolutely accurate.

Some professors on campus have expressed concern about the ideals of the student body and one student simply replied look out the window.

Unsigned editorials in the above column represent the views of the editorial board.

Looking out of any window on campus at any given time and you will see a true reflection of what leads to student apathy.

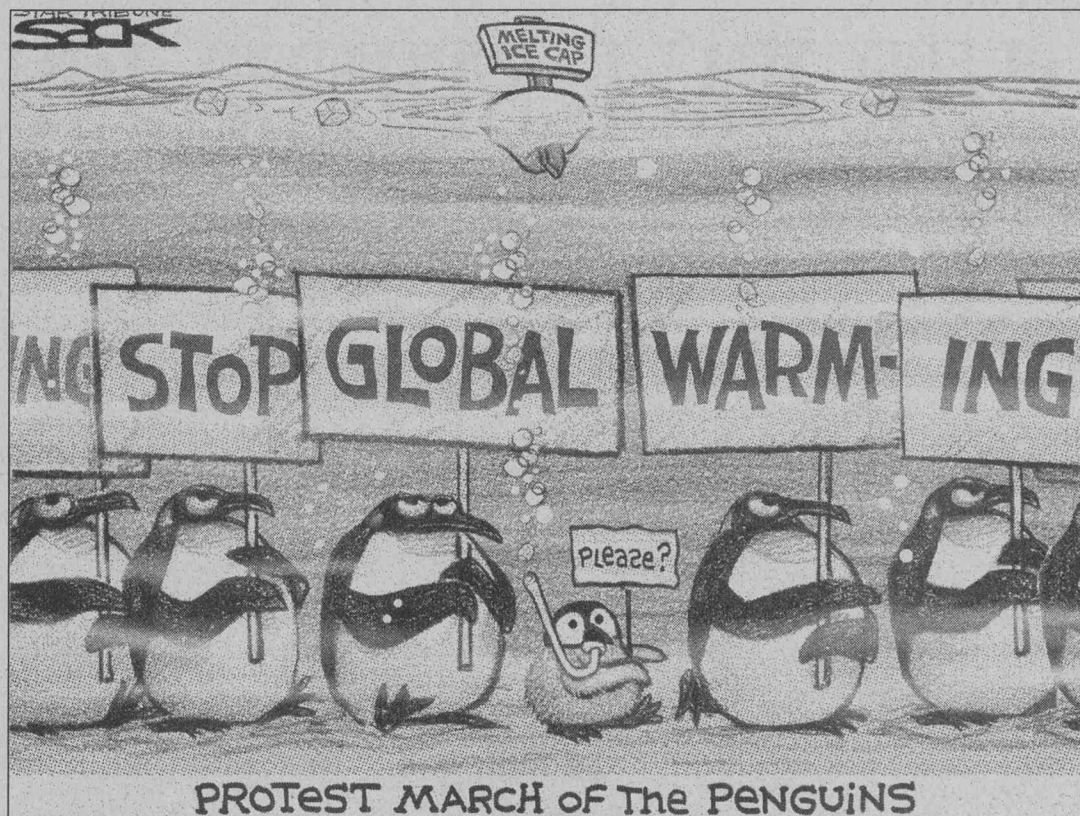
Honda Civics with 20-inch rims, high-heel boots, designer clothes, fraternities/ sororities and money.

Students are apathetic and they do not care so long as they can attain wealth or at least the appearance of wealth.

Appeal instead of importance has become the dominant mindset. If it is aesthetically appealing, students will fight to obtain it.

One would think that low tuition, government accountability, experience and excellence are appealing.

The apathetic attitude of students, especially black students, has to change or the school administration and beyond will continue to not care about us.



Lottery should pay off for public education

By MICHELE MATTHEWS
Contributor



The state of North Carolina has thumbed its collective nose at the idea of a state lottery for many years; however, the state's recent lift on the lottery ban was in the best interest of North Carolina public school students.

In years past, residents of this state participated in the lotteries of neighboring states. For years, North Carolina residents helped to pay for general government and public education funds that benefited residents of the states of Virginia and South Carolina. With the new North Carolina state lottery in place, residents of this state and their children will be the beneficiaries of the proceeds of the lottery.

North Carolina is home to some of the best colleges and universities in the country, yet it boasts one of the poorest and ill-performing public education systems in the country. The North Carolina state education lottery is an initiative that was long overdue.

States like Arizona, Indiana, Kentucky, and New York have grossed millions of dollars for public education from the proceeds of lottery. And now that this state has embraced the practice, the proceeds will be used to improve classroom conditions and provide teachers and students with an environment that is more conducive to learning.

50 percent of the proceeds will be used to reduce class size, 40 percent will be used for school construction, and the other 10 percent will be used for college scholarships. For those who think the institution of a state lottery is a result of moral degradation, those in support of the initiative contend it is a blessing for the millions of public school students in the state of North Carolina.

More resources needed to stop spread of diseases

By TWI BROWN
Guest commentary



Sexually transmitted diseases are on the rise on college campuses. Out of 30 students surveyed, 17 admitted to having unprotected sex at least once while in college. One problem with STD's is that students do not know that they are even at risk.

Many students who have an STD don't even know and continue their risky behavior, spreading the disease to other unknowing students.

A&T has made strides to try to decrease the number of cases at our university. At the Sebastian Health Center on campus, free STD testing is offered to all students. The center also dispenses free condoms to students. But even with the center offering these services for free, very little students use them. Why is it that students who are at risk do not get tested?

When I asked Amanda Proctor, a junior fashion merchandising major at A&T, why she thought that

students didn't use the resources available at Sebastian, she said "It has a lot to do with humiliation, people don't want to go in a place where other students are at and say that I need a HIV test."

When I asked Frank Fraser, a sophomore nursing major at A&T, he said "People are scared, they don't wanna hear you have AIDS."

As blacks, we are disproportionately affected by STD's. Gonorrhea rates are 30 times higher in blacks than whites, and the rate for AIDS is five times higher for blacks than whites. It is also the fourth-leading cause for death in African Americans ages 25-44.

So what can be done? A&T, as an HBCU, has a responsibility to keep its students well-informed and healthy. We need to be more active in educating our students, having awareness days and creating an environment that students feel comfortable in to discuss STD's with knowledgeable staff.

One thought is that maybe students on campus could start an organization that deals with STD's on campus and start a focus group on how this problem can be eradicated from our campus.



Analyst-guru Vitale answers questions on state of college basketball

By **RON GREEN JR.**
Knight Ridder Newspapers
(KRT)

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - The arrival of college basketball season means many things: March Madness, the Cameron Crazies, Dick Vitale.

For 26 years, Vitale has been the loud, enthusiastic and un-sinkable voice of the game. He has helped create the language of college basketball and, in the process, has become the sport's effervescent ambassador.

During a recent visit to Charlotte, Vitale took a few minutes to talk with staff writer Ron Green Jr. about the coming season.

QUESTION: It's no secret that Duke is everybody's pre-season No. 1, including yours. Are the Blue Devils that good?

ANSWER: The beauty of college basketball is that it's not four out of seven. If it were four out of seven, it's obvious Duke would be unbeatable. I believe nobody would beat them four out of seven if they stay healthy.

But in the one-game scenario, the one bad night and the party's over. So I don't think it's a lock.

Are they the best team on paper? Yes. I think Mike Krzyzewski would agree. That team is deep, talented, has size, has flexibility and, most of all, they have two veterans where a lot of teams just have a star.

J.J. Redick and Shelden Williams have come back. That means a kid like (Josh) McRoberts doesn't have to be the first option. He now can play as a blender with the stars. A lot of schools get a kid like that and he has to carry the team.

Q: Barely six months ago, North Carolina won the national championship. Since then, the Tar Heels have lost their top seven players and many expect them to be left out of the NCAA tournament field this year. What do you expect from the Tar Heels?

A: I might be a little wacky. On my Web site I have my 65 teams projection and I have North Carolina as one of the teams going out of the ACC. I have six from the ACC.

I think they're going to be better than people think. Because of their youth and inexperience, they're going to have nights when they shock people and play out of their mind and other nights when they'll probably get beat by someone you wouldn't expect.

Q: What else about the ACC jumps out at you?

A: The arrival of Boston Col-



People look forward to basketball season to hear what Dick Vitale has to say.

lege. Last year you saw Virginia Tech and Miami come in and make a little bit of an impact. Boston College is much more talented than that.

They have two legitimate stars. If I had to pick two of the top 20 players in America - Jared Dudley and Craig Smith. In fact, Smith made my All-American first team.

Boston College could be a major factor in the ACC.

Q: Which teams do you like nationally beyond Duke?

A: Texas and Michigan State are going to be outstanding. Kentucky has a great backcourt. Louisville is going to be outstanding again.

Everybody is talking what about losing all these kids to the NBA. College basketball is still so exciting, it's going to go on. Those kids that leave, they're the ones who end up missing a lot. The game is getting bigger and bigger.

(Television) ratings are down, but that's totally deceiving because of the number of games that are on. On a Saturday, you can get about a dozen games. When you total everybody that's watching, it's unbelievable.

A conference I think that's going to make an impact is the Big Ten. Michigan State, Illinois, Iowa will be outstanding with five starters back. Michigan is in the middle. This could be a breakout year for (Tommy) Amaker. He needs one badly.

Q: If you could change one thing about college basketball, what would it be?

A: I would get the NBA, the NCAA, all of them get together and adopt a rule that exists well in baseball. When you enter college, you cannot leave until your third year is completed. That works beautifully.

In baseball, everyone has synchronized to make it work. The problem is not LeBron James. If a kid wants to leave out of high school, I have no problem.

The problem is all the kids who were cut who left school early. They've left early and gotten cut and become basketball vagabonds because they listened to the wrong people.

Kobe Bryant, Kevin Garnett, those kids have been ready. What I always tried to propose and it never went anywhere is they should have a panel of experts, of general managers, the Jerry Wests of the world, those guys sit down and they designate five kids a year out of high school they feel are going to be lottery selections.

If those five want to go, they go. Everybody else that enters college can't leave until after their third year.

It would help the NBA. It would help college.

Q: Do you like Krzyzewski as the Olympic coach?

A: It's the perfect choice. Perfect. He represents red, white and blue. There's no doubt in my mind players are going to play with passion. You'll see the stars playing. We may not get every superstar, but we're going to get enough talent.

The bottom line is it's not the best players that make a great team. It's the group that can work together. I think he and Jerry Colangelo together will get us a team that will bring back some of that pride.

I got a note from him. The note said, "Dick, I'm so honored to have been named the coach of the Olympic team." You could almost feel it in his words. I think he's going to convey that to the team.

Lady Aggies finish season on a high note

Stark bids farewell, Sylvan gets 100th win

By **MIKE MCCRAY**
Photographer / Reporter

The Lady Aggies made quick work of a clearly overmatched Norfolk State team with a 3-0 (30-19, 30-21, 30-15) victory in their last home game of the season.

The Lady Aggies said goodbye to their lone senior Shea Stark and celebrated coach Millicent Sylvan's 100th career victory.

Stark, who plans on returning next year as a graduate assistant, was clearly choked up during the pre-game ceremony honoring her past few years at A&T as she added 10 more assists to her 66 total, 55 kills and 34 digs on the season. Shea Stark was one of the few veterans on this team and her leadership will be missed next season as the Aggies press on.

"Shea has been a great team leader, especially for the younger players," said coach Sylvan. "She has been a source of inspiration for the players, both academically and athletically."

Stark is a member of the MEAC All-Academic team with a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

Game one saw the Aggies come out and feed off of the home crowd and win an unusually fast match 30-19. The Lady Spartans were out of sorts and at times showed a lack of heart in their defeat. The second game was a little closer, but the Lady Aggies made easy work of Norfolk State winning 30-21. The third and final contest showed Norfolk State clearly just going

through the motions as they struggled to muster any kind of offense against a stingy A&T defense, losing 30-15 and falling to 2-23 and 0-10 in MEAC play.

The Lady Aggies were led by Arlene Mitchell, who had 13 kills and four service aces. Lauren Walker had 12 digs and Kyrstal Cooper added four service aces as the Aggies had 17 on the game.

Brendan Chatman set 20 assists. The Lady Spartans searched for answers on how to stop the Aggie offense, which had a 0.161 hitting percentage.

The Lady Aggies closed the season with a 20-17 record and 10-1 record in the MEAC. After the game, head coach Millicent Sylvan reflected on her personal milestone and her team's ultimate goal.

"It feels good. It's a nice accomplishment but the thing I'm looking for is not just wins, but championship wins." Stark also reflected on her past years at

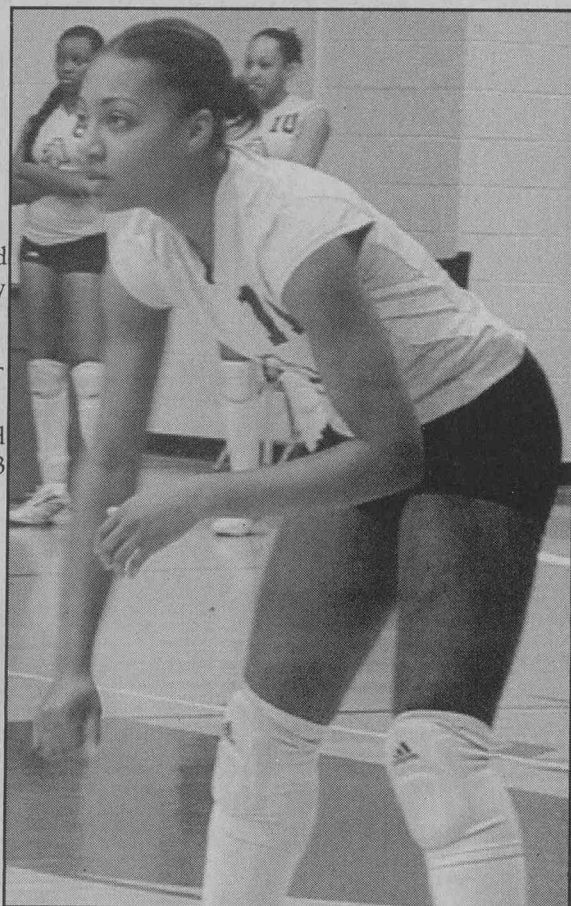


PHOTO BY MIKE MCCRAY

Arlene Mitchell prepares for a Norfolk State serve. Mitchell had 13 kills and four service aces Saturday.

A&T. "It's been a great experience to be part of a team where everybody wants to succeed."

The Lady Aggies had no trouble handling the Lady Spartans as they were never behind in any of the three contests, just one night after beating Savannah State in three straight games.

A&T looks to dethrone Florida A&M for its first MEAC championship in volleyball as the 2005 MEAC Championships come to Greensboro, November 17-19 at the Greensboro Sportsplex.

Athletic staff announces plans for basketball season

Student must wear gold to sit in lower level of Corbett

By **CHAD ROBERTS**
Copy Desk Chief

Keith McCluney is the man responsible for the athletic department's Solid Gold campaign.

His official title is assistant athletic director for marketing. Beside having everyone dress in one color for games, McCluney also coordinates the advertising space on the new scoreboard and manages ads during the games.

After some success with the Solid Gold campaign during McCluney recently another "golden" idea, this time for basketball season.

The 'Dawg Pound,' the student seating on the lower level of Corbett Sports Center, will be reserved only for students who are wearing gold.

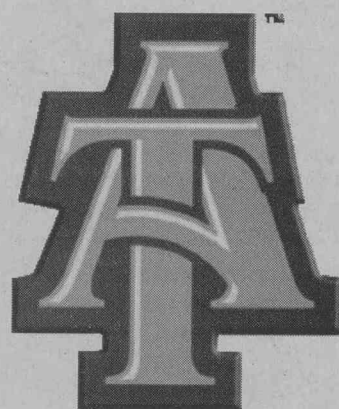
"We want people to understand we're changing the culture," McCluney said. "I'm just trying to enhance it and make it better."

McCluney has also enlisted the help of a group of students dubbed the "Aggie Maniacs," who will dress in gold, paint their faces, yell, scream and generally try to intimidate opposing basketball teams.

The Aggie Maniacs, combined with an all-gold student section, are a part of what McCluney

hopes will become a tradition - fans dressed in one color as a sign of support for their team, similar to Carolina blue or N.C. State's red.

"Just about every Division I-A school does it," McCluney said. "It should become a part of the culture."



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